Vol 9 **The War Illustrated** N° 215

SIXPENCE — Edited by Sir John Hammerton — SEPTEMBER 14, 1945

OUR KING AND QUEEN, WITH THE TWO PRINCESSES, entered St. Paul's Cathedral to a fanfare from trumpeters of the Household Cavalry when they attended a special afternoon service there on August 19, 1945, to commemorate the conclusion of the War. The Prime Minister and his Cabinet, Mr. Churchill, distinguished representatives of all the United Nations and the Dominions, and heads of the Services and civil departments were among a large congregation. *Photo, P.N.A.*

The Day for Which the World Had Waited

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CELEBRATING THE JAPANESE SURRENDER, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek (1) broadcast, on August 15, 1945, from Chungking. In Paris, U.S. troops (2) sold newspapers in aid of the Red Cross. New York's famous Times Square (3) was packed. In Cairo, British Service men and women (4) scanned the latest editions. In Rangoon our troops heard the news from the S.E.A.C. radio-car (5). Seven days previously, Filipinos in Manila (6) had hailed Russia's war declaration.

Photos, British Official, Associated Press, New York Times Photos, Keystone, Fox

Is This The End Of War?

By The Editor

ALTHOUGH I have on various occasions expressed my opinion that the Japanese, for all their preposterous boasting, would not be able to prolong the War for any considerable stretch of time after the complete collapse of Germany, and I have never expected them to endure many months beyond that happy event, I readily confess that one could not easily have submitted a good case for that belief, which was more in the nature of a "hunch" than a conviction based upon reason. That Russia would soon or later attack Japan was fairly obvious, for the Soviets regard themselves as the heirs of "Mother Russia" along the vast and still indeterminate borderlands of Manchuria and Mongolia, where for generations the competing interests of Russia and Japan have been awaiting final solution. One could, of course, argue that the tremendous bombing which the war plants and industrial centres of Japan had been receiving for months past was "softening up" the island empire preparatory to mass invasion and naval attack, which would quickly precipitate the early collapse of the far-scattered Japanese forces, as these had been robbed of all naval support by the almost total destruction of the Mikado's sea power; but it was a mere handful of men in America and Great Britain who knew about that greatest of all secret weapons, the atomic bomb.

"A Bomb to End Bombs"

Without that stupendous instrument of offensive war, to which by comparison the most diabolical of Hitler's V weapons was only a medium of terrorism, war against Japan might still have been going on, even though its end would have been clearly in sight. The fact that no more than two of these bombs were required to reduce the fire-eating race of greedy and envious Nipponese to submission, is the best proof of the value of this great discovery, in which both British and American scientists have shared. A quick-witted humorist has described it as "a bomb to end bombs." And quite seriously that may prove a truer description than "a war to end wars" which, for a time, so many of us hoped the First World War might prove.

We can restrain our tears for the large destruction of two populous cities of a people who have shown themselves to be as cruel and barbarous as the Western Huns and even more treacherous. These bombs, produced at such fabulous cost —five-eighths of the total national debt of Great Britain at the end of the Napoleonic Wars—may yet be looked upon as cheap at the price, and there can be little doubt that they have saved at least a million lives of the Allied armies by bringing the Mikado and his war-mongers to their knees when confronted with their impending fate. Moreover, they have quite probably saved far more Japanese lives than they have taken. And it is pretty evident that from the first the atom bomb was devised as an awful warning rather than a weapon to be used at large; for the two peoples whose men of genius solved this tremendous problem of unleashing on earth that primal force which exists at the core of the Sun itself and is the very mainspring of our solar system, are foremost among the peace-minded nations.

Had Hun or Jap First Used the Atom!

We must realize that had the Germans or the Japanese been the first to solve this problem which has long occupied their men of science, neither of these ruthless races would have troubled to warn us what they were about to do with it. They would have used it to the full: two bombs would not have sufficed to slake their thirst for destruction. Indeed, it may yet be said that the Anglo-American powers that first secured command of this mightiest force of nature showed an extreme of human consideration in the use they made of it.

But is it then the end of war that has thus been achieved at one blow, so to speak? Provided an international body controlled the use of the weapon and that its secrets might remain known only to the few, that would seem to be a possibility. For unlike every other instrument of aggressive war, with the possible exception of the V2 rocket bomb, there would seem hardly any chance of inventing an opposing weapon which would effectively counteract its destructiveness. Also, there is the prohibitive cost of its fabrication. That, for the present at least, its secrets rest with the scientists of the two great world powers for peace is our best assurance for the future.

Atomic Power Applied to Peace

The pictures that have been painted by excited writers, of humanity immolating itself on the altar of the atom, or even bringing chaos to the universe by projecting atomic bombs into those regions where the morning stars still sing together in blissful harmony, need not greatly disturb us. We should rather contemplate the vast possibilities which, by this invention, are opened to the mind of Man who is now in possession of one of the greatest of nature's secrets, and if its first and easiest use would appear to be destructive, it may be that it is so only in the sense that the surgeon destroys a lesser part of the human anatomy in order to save a major part, much as forest fires are fought by burning large tracts of country in their course: the "scorched earth" policy wherewith Stalin saved Russia.

THE thanksgiving services and natural rejoicings with which the submission of the barbaric God-King of the Japanese was marked throughout the world, and especially in those countries which have borne the burden of the war against the oriental aggressors, were not immoderate, having regard to those long years of suffering which had been endured. It is, however, regrettable that certain prelates assumed the right, not merely to ignore this occasion for rejoicing, but refused to allow any form of thanksgiving in their churches because of the means whereby the superior intelligence of the West has overwhelmed its imitators in the East. Those who have wrested this awful secret from the innermost recesses of nature will yet discover how to apply it to the good of humanity. That will take many a year of research and experiment. I remember reading in a New York journal fifty years ago the breath-taking details of the possibilities awaiting the world when science had discovered how to obtain from coal its total energy without destroying most of it in the furnace fires. A few buckets of Welsh coal were to do, by the new method of abstracting their full calorific value, what hundreds of tons were needed to produce by the methods then in use! After half a century we are still burning away in needless smoke most of the calorific content of the coal!

The Dawn of a New Era

But the human factor remains. Will those on whom we have inflicted complete defeat in the West and the East be willing to accept the verdict of this World War? It is a question to which your answer is as good as mine. All that we do know today with any certainty is the fact that we possess a weapon of offence which has never before in the history of the world been at the disposal of any group of human beings, and if we fail to use it in such a way as may prevent all predatory peoples from disturbing the world's peace we shall have proved ourselves unworthy custodians of a power in which there must reside potentialities for the good of Man no less than for his harm. On the whole, the chances that we have stifled for ever the willingness to make war are as great as the potentialities for war-making which have now been demonstrated by the use of the atomic bomb. In any event the world has entered a new, if not unforeseen era of human activity, and we must go forward in it not full of fear and trembling, but with high hope for the triumphs of the human mind.

J. A. HAMMERTON

LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN, SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER S.E.A.C., and his chiefs of staff drew up surrender terms for the Japanese in Burma. Left to right: Gen. Sir William Slim, Gen. Raymond Wheeler (commanding U.S. forces in the India-Burma theatre), Lord Louis, Admiral Sir Arthur Power, Air Marshal Sir Keith Park, and Lt.-Gen. F. M. Browning. The Jap surrender delegation, headed by Lt.-Gen. Numata, arrived in Rangoon on August 26, 1945, and a preliminary agreement was concluded the following day. **See also facing page.** *Photo, British Official*

With Our Armies Today

By MAJ.-GENERAL
SIR CHARLES GWYNN
K.C.B., D.S.O.

We are fully justified in rejoicing at Japan's surrender, even though we may wish that it had been brought about by other means. It remains to be seen whether fighting will cease even when the Emperor's orders have reached his troops. His broadcast was far from satisfactory, and had more sinister implications than a mere face-saving statement. General MacArthur may have no easy task in enforcing the adoption of a more chastened attitude even among those who have experienced the bombardment of the heart of Japan by sea and air, and who must realize the effects of the atomic bomb. Outlying troops and commanders who have not had these experiences nor been decisively defeated—in some cases they have not been engaged at all—may not consent to lay down their arms while they are in a position to continue the struggle.

POLICE Operations to Suppress Banditry by Fanatical Groups

The Russian offensive so admirably, and, as Mr. Churchill has told us, so punctually timed, has removed the most serious danger of prolonged resistance in defiance of the Emperor's orders. But it would, I think, be premature to count on the surrender of the many detachments in Malaya and in islands where evasive tactics can be employed to avoid decisive defeat. In such cases much must clearly depend on the character and fanaticism of the local commander, for the rank and file of his force would probably obey his orders. I hope I may be mistaken, but I certainly foresee the necessity of police operations perhaps on an extensive scale, even if it may only be to suppress banditry by fanatical groups. Meanwhile, everyone who has followed the Japanese war closely throughout will be pleased that the Australians, who in New Guinea were the first to defeat the Japanese on land, should on Bougainville be the first to receive the surrender of a complete detachment, still capable of resistance.

It will be interesting to learn, though we may never do so with certainty, how nearly the Japanese Government was brought to surrender by intensive bombing before the atomic bomb was used, or whether Russia's intervention would by itself have proved a decisive factor. In the event, there cannot be a shadow of doubt that the use of the atomic bomb was decisive and that it accelerated the end. That is the immediate justification for its employment, for it probably saved more lives than it destroyed.

The long-term effects of its use may be infinitely more important. It gave convincing proof that the most peace-loving nation in the world possessed this terrible weapon. If its existence had remained secret or been merely a subject for rumour, an aggressive nation might have produced it independently and, in the belief that it could spring a surprise on the world, have used it unhesitatingly. As it is, it would seem that a weapon has been devised and is in the right hands to form a deterrent against any attempt to establish world domination by aggression.

EFFECTIVENESS of Intervention Dependent on Prompt Action

It would, however, be over-optimistic to assume that a complete deterrent to war has been devised or that other forms of security armament have become obsolete. Humanity is by nature quarrelsome and only to a limited extent law-abiding. In spite of the law, stree quarrels and rioting will continue to occur and the burglar will continue to ply his trade. A well-devised legal system backed by an efficient police reduces the frequency and scope of such occurrences, and that is all we can hope for from international courts and police forces. The police must be prepared to use force, and the householder is permitted to use weapons in defence of his life and property, but neither is entitled to use more force than is necessary. International police forces will be under the same obligation, and the effectiveness of their intervention will depend rather on prompt and firm action than on its violence. It is unthinkable that the atomic bomb or even strategic air bombing on a decisive scale should be used except as a last resort, and that in itself precludes prompt action. The older types of weapons, modified as they may be by invention, obviously lend themselves to restricted and regulated use to a much greater degree, and the more that military force is designed for police purposes only the more are the old weapons likely to remain the primary form of armament.

The atomic bomb must surely be looked on as a reserve of power only to be exerted as a last resort. I am assuming that we have to consider the employment of the international police to deal not only with deliberate aggression but also for intervention in disputes of a more localized character between hot-headed States. For armies of occupation on preventive duties, motorized infantry are clearly most suitable, and it is interesting to learn that Field-Marshal Montgomery is already arming and training artillery and armoured units for employment as infantry; though that may be partly in order to allow his infantry units to have their fair share of leave and to facilitate demobilization processes without unduly depleting his infantry force of experienced men.

It is too early to come to definite conclusions regarding the use of the atomic bomb as an instrument of war, but we may be unduly alarmed at its appearance. I think there is every probability that it will never again be used. So long as it remains a unilateral weapon in the hands of a peace-loving power the limitations imposed on its use are so great as to be practically prohibitive. If, on the other hand, its secrets become widely known it is hardly conceivable that even an aggressive power would dare to make use of it.

After the 1914–18 war it was generally believed that, in spite of prohibition, gas would be a principal weapon in future wars, and every nation took precautions against it and was prepared to use it immediately in case signatures were repudiated. As we know, expectations proved wrong and gas was not used at all; not, we may be sure, because of scruples on the part of Germany, but because of dangers arising from its reprisal use. It was not a sufficiently deadly weapon to form an absolute deterrent to war or to ensure decisive victory, but it was a sufficiently formidable weapon to be a deterrent to one particular form of war—because there was no prospect of its unilateral employment. The atomic bomb is evidently an immensely more terrible weapon than gas, and provided an aggressor nation is given no opportunity to use it unilaterally it may fall into the limbo of unused weapons.

GAME of Bluff Might be Played with the Older and Normal Weapons

Perhaps the greatest danger is that should an aggressor be given the opportunity of providing himself with the weapon he might carry out his designs with normal weapons, counting on the unwillingness of other nations to initiate a form of warfare with such catastrophic potentialities. Too implicit reliance on the deterrent effect of the new weapon might, in fact, result in a game of bluff in which the side that had neglected the older weapons would probably be the loser.

We have perhaps to take into account the weapon as a threat rather than the effects produced by its actual use. But the main conclusion to be drawn is that more than ever there is a need for pacific nations to be armed and prepared to take anticipatory preventive action boldly and promptly.

Japan's Surrender Envoys Receive Their Orders

AT MANILA on August 19, 1945, in response to a command from General MacArthur, arrived the Japanese surrender delegation, numbering 16. Filing down the gangway from the U.S.A.A.F. C-54 transport plane (1), which had brought them from Ie Island, off Okinawa, they were preceded by Gen. Torashiro Kawabe, vice-chief of the Imperial Japanese staff.

General Kawabe bowed as he presented his credentials to Gen. E. Richard Sutherland, Gen. MacArthur's Chief of Staff (2). At Nichol's Field, the Manila airport (3), they were escorted off the runway by Maj.-Gen. C. A. Willoughby, Maj.-Gen. S. J. Chamberlain (4), in charge of all U.S. staff engaged in occupation plans. Map shows where Allied troops were first landed on August 26; shaded is zone to which enemy had to withdraw.

Photos, Associated Press. Map by courtesy of The Daily Mail.

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PROCLAIMING from the White House on August 14, 1945, the news of the Japanese capitulation, President Truman announced the appointment of General MacArthur as Allied Supreme Commander to receive the enemy's formal surrender. Within 24 hours the General had ordered the Japanese to cease fire and send to Manila representatives fully empowered by the Emperor. That same day (August 15) Tokyo radio announced that the Premier, Baron Suzuki (appointed on April 8), had resigned and that the 58-year-old War Minister Anami had committed suicide to "atone for his failure." Later, the Emperor himself addressed his people by radio (for the first time) to announce the surrender of the Japanese fighting forces.

Japanese radio began pleading for an extension of the time-limit to complete surrender arrangements; not until August 19 did the awaited envoys from Tokyo reach MacArthur's headquarters in Manila. There they were received by Gen. Sutherland, Chief of Staff. The C.-in-C. himself did not appear, and Admiral Nimitz was represented by his Assistant Chief of Staff, Rear-Admiral Sherman. On Bougainville, in the Solomons, enemy land and sea forces, through Lt.-Gen. Kanda, surrendered to Lt.-Gen. Savige, commanding the Australians.

ON Aug. 20, broadcasting from New Delhi, Lord Louis Mountbatten ordered F.-Marshal Count Terauchi, commanding the Japanese Southern Army, to send representatives to Rangoon. Not until the following day, however, did the enemy divulge to their people the imminent occupation. It was revealed on Aug. 23 that among Allied warships to anchor in Tokyo Bay for the signing of the instrument of surrender on board the U.S. battleship Missouri were H.M.S. Duke of York, flagship of Sir Bruce Fraser, commanding the British Pacific Fleet, and H.M.S. King George V, flagship of Vice-Admiral Sir Bernard Rawlings, commander of the British Task Force.

With Our Navies Today

By
FRANCIS E. McMURTRIE

SIMULTANEOUSLY with the VJ celebrations, an Allied Naval Exhibition and Navy Week was opened at Rotterdam by Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands. With the Prince were the Dutch Minister of Marine, Mr. J. M. de Booy ; Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Tovey, Commander-in-Chief at the Nore, who crossed the North Sea to attend the ceremony; Admiral J. T. Furstner, Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Netherlands Navy ; and Vice-Admiral Sir Gerald Dickens, Senior British Naval Officer in the Netherlands ; Rear-Admiral R. K. Dickson, Chief of Naval Information, Admiralty ; and Rear-Admiral G. W. Stoeve, Royal Netherlands Navy.

After the opening ceremony a display was given by Royal Marine Commando troops drawn from the 4th Brigade, which stormed Walcheren. This consisted of an attack on an enemy position, in which the assault party took advantage of every inequality in the rough ground, in the blitzed area of Rotterdam. The few buildings that remain standing here, including the large store in which the exhibition was housed, echoed to the sound of thunder-flashes and the patter of machine-gun fire, while a crowd of nearly 20,000 people cheered themselves hoarse.

In the evening there was a firework display from the British and Dutch warships present. These included the cruiser Bellona, flagship of Rear-Admiral A. E. M. B. Cunninghame-Graham ; the destroyers Onslow and Garth ; the submarines Tuna (British), Dolfijn and Zeehond (both Dutch) ; two tank landing ships and two motor torpedo boats, one of which was Dutch. During the day there were opportunities for the people of Rotterdam to take passage in " ducks " to the landing ships, a highly popular diversion.

INGENIOUS Device for Training Crews of Anti-Aircraft Guns

Other features which drew crowds were Royal Marine Band performances, including the colourful ceremony of beating the retreat ; a display of close-order drill by the King's Squad, Portsmouth Division, Royal Marines ; two sailing regattas, one between local yachts sailed by British and Dutch crews, the other between service whalers ; a football match between H.M.S. Bellona and Rotterdam ; and sundry dances and other entertainments. Coinciding with the peace celebrations these events aroused tremendous enthusiasm in Rotterdam and The Hague, where people are just recovering from the long strain imposed by the German occupation. The exhibition itself included exhibits of weapons of all kinds, including torpedoes, mines, shells of various calibres, and naval aircraft. Amongst the last-named was the latest type of Seafire, with a speed of over 400 miles an hour. There were specimens of enemy weapons such as the " Biber " and " Seehund " midget submarines, a one-man human torpedo and an explosive motor boat. An exceptionally interesting exhibit was the Portobel Dome, an ingenious device for training anti-aircraft guns' crews, in which the sounds of the aircraft's engine and of the firing of the guns are realistically reproduced. Each man under training mans his gun just as he would on board a ship, and does his best to hit the enemy aircraft as it passes over in the form of a shadow on the dome. The number of shots fired and the total of hits are registered automatically.

EXCHANGES of Warships Between the Royal Navy and U.S. Navy

The Wrens produced a very effective section, in which methods of rigging and splicing and visual signalling were demonstrated. Wrens could also be seen working on radio gear for aircraft. There were a great many photographs showing the gradual progress of the war in the Atlantic, Mediterranean and Pacific. It was noticeable that the Dutch took the utmost interest in these photographs, examining them closely and reading out the captions to one another. Altogether the occasion was a tremendous success, and I returned from Rotterdam wondering how long it would be before the Admiralty is able to stage a Navy Week in this country again.

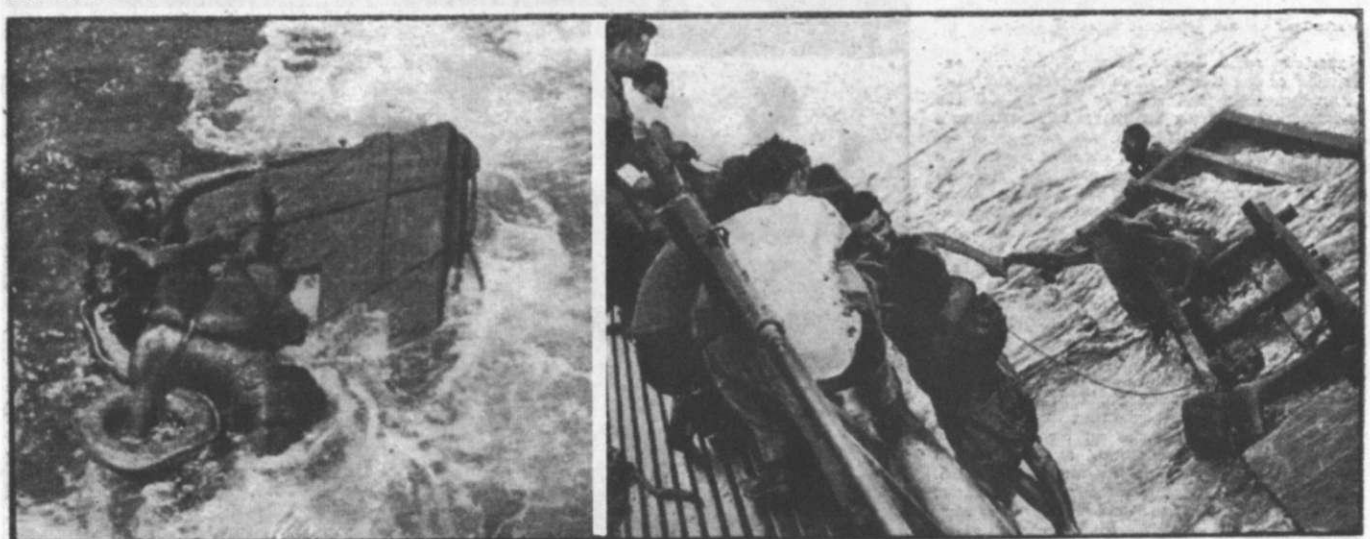
With the end of Lease-Lend, warships are starting to change hands. The first of these exchanges took place at Chatham and Harwich last month, when ten American-built frigates of the Royal Navy were turned over to the United States Navy in return for ten British-built corvettes which hoisted the American flag in 1942. All the frigates were of the Diesel-propelled type, belonging to the " Captain " class, while the corvettes were of the " Flower " design. In the former were included H.M.S. Grindall, and in the latter the U.S.S. Tenacity, which was launched as H.M.S. Candytuft. There are, of course, many more American-built British warships than there are British-built United States ships.

An official summary of the war in the Pacific was issued by the United States Navy Department on August 15. Fresh facts exposed in this statement are that the formidable Japanese expedition defeated in the Battle of Midway in June 1942, was almost certainly aimed at Hawaii, though Midway was included in its preliminary programme. This is described as " potentially the greatest threat ever poised against the United States during the war." By 1943 it was the many enemy-occupied islands with airfields, " far more than the Japanese fleet," which threatened to hamper the free movement of the United States Navy in the Central Pacific, along the most direct route to the Philippines and Japan.

A REMARKABLE instance of the cautious way the Japanese used their fleet was the engagement off the Komandirski Islands in 1943. Here a small American group comprising one heavy cruiser, two light cruisers and four destroyers succeeded in turning back a Japanese force twice its size when the latter sought to reinforce and supply garrisons in the Aleutian Islands. United States submarines are believed to have accounted for more than 146 enemy fighting ships and 1,041 merchant ships during their unceasing patrols in Japanese waters. In this way they established a highly effective blockade of the enemy's supply routes.

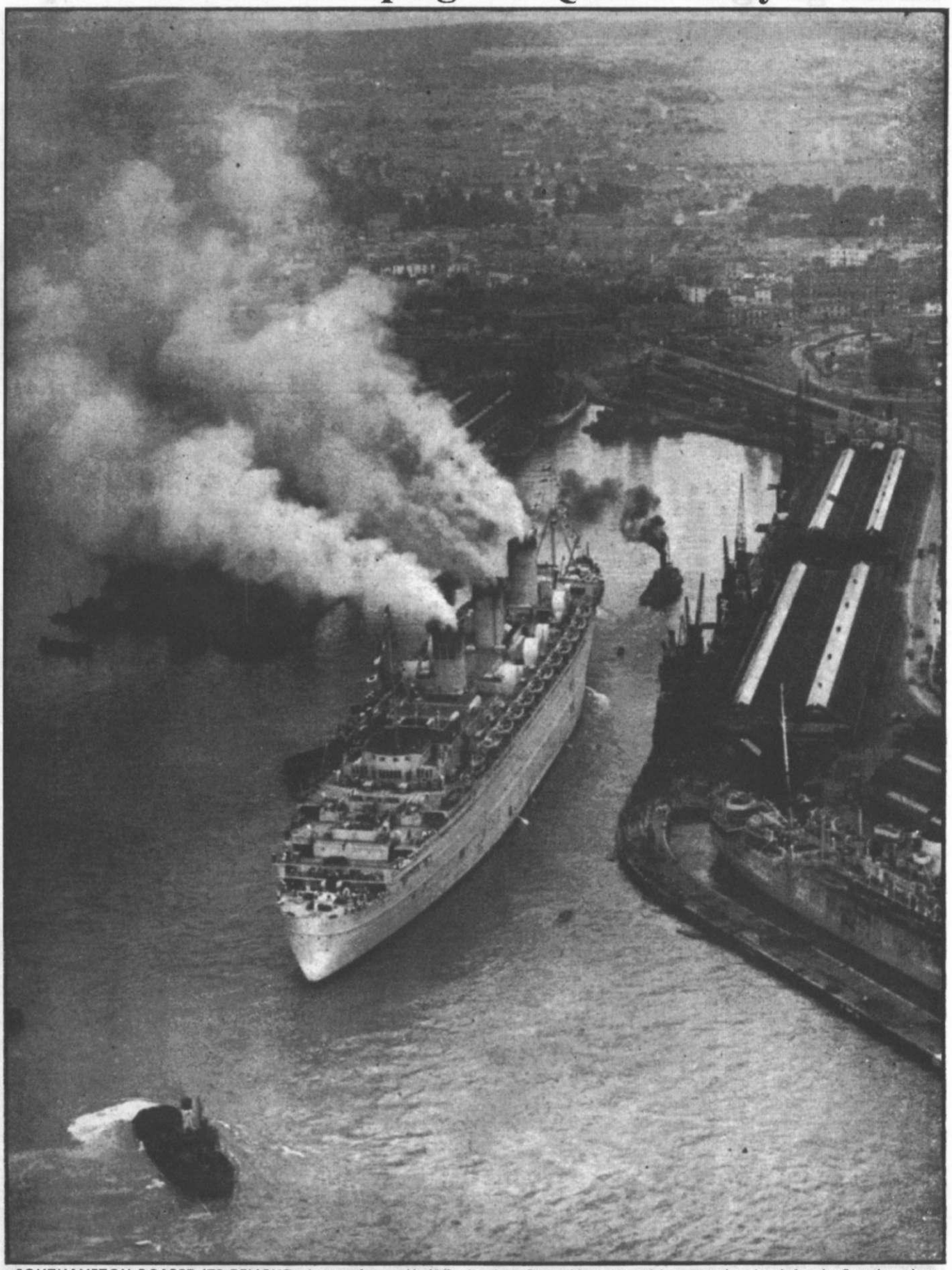
It is probable that the battle on June 20, 1944, in which U.S. naval aircraft attacked the Japanese fleet to the eastward of the Philippines, sinking two of its carriers, two destroyers and a tanker, would have been even more disastrous to the enemy had not the American planes been short of fuel, which obliged them to break off the action.

IN the greatest Japanese defeat, a series of three engagements between October 23 and 26, known together as the Battle for Leyte, it is now suspected that five enemy battleships may have been sunk. This appears to be borne out by the number found in port in subsequent air operations. The fifth ship may have been the old battleship Kongo. It is considered that the battleships Ise, Hyuga and Haruna, all of which were bombed at Kure in July, were so heavily damaged that they may be written off as total losses. As regards aircraft carriers, the position is somewhat more obscure, according to the latest American reports. It is thought that not more than two of the large fleet type and two of smaller size remain afloat ; but there may be one or two more in the completing stage.



" ONE OF THE MOST SENSATIONAL STORIES OF THE WAR " was how Admiral Nimitz, Allied Naval C.-in-C. in the Pacific, described the rescue of 159 British and Australian prisoners. They were survivors from the torpedoed Japanese transport Rakuyo Maru, sunk in the Marianas during July 1945, when U.S. submarines Sealion, Barb, Queenfish, Pampanito and Growler destroyed at least ten enemy ships. After five days at sea some were too weak to move (left) as the Queenfish came alongside. Others boarded the Sealion (right). *Photos, U.S. Official*

After Years of Trooping the Queen Mary is Home

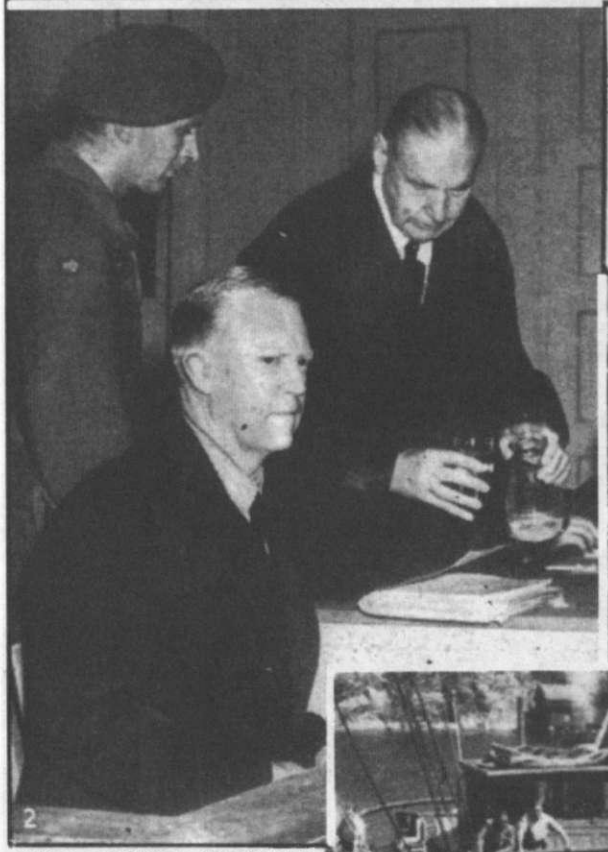


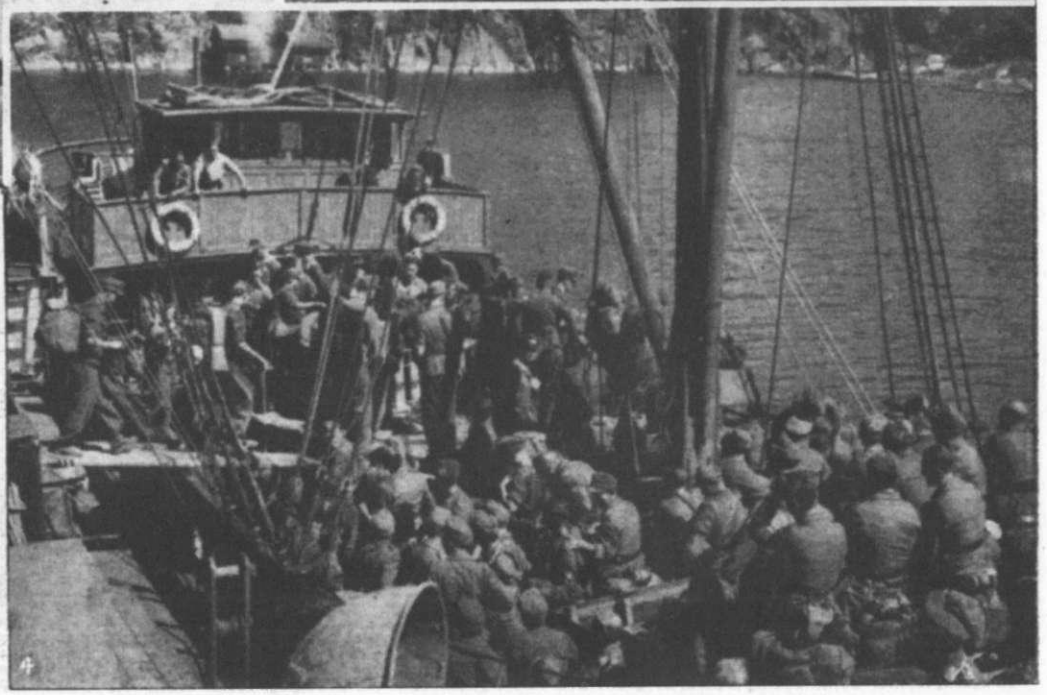
SOUTHAMPTON ROARED ITS DELIGHT when on August 11, 1945, the giant Queen Mary entered her peacetime berth for the first time since 1939, when she became the world's largest troopship. Crowds cheered, bands played and aircraft circled overhead as, with flags flying, the 80,000-ton luxury liner sailed up Southampton Water. As her thousand privileged passengers from the U.S. disembarked, other gangways were being hurriedly run into position for the embarkation of stores for the return trip with 15,000 U.S. soldiers six days later, when her passengers included Admiral Harold R. Stark, former Commanding Officer of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe. See also page 312.

Photo, Central Press

Removing All the Nazi Smears from Norway

THE TASK OF EVACUATING by land and sea the 140,000 members of the Wehrmacht then in the Narvik area of Norway—at an average rate of 2,500 a day—was begun in early August 1945, by British troops transformed from Royal Artillery A.A. regiments to infantry. At the request of the Norwegian Government, 7,000 Germans were sent to Finmark (see pages 588-89 and 749, Vol. 8), to help restore life and communications to this heavily-despoiled province of northernmost Norway ; vast quantities of equipment fell into British hands, for the Nazis had built up stores sufficient to maintain their forces there for at least nine months. Small arms ammunition and brass casings of all shells were salved, but large-calibre ammunition was dumped in the Narvik fjord. Metal from all seized gun-barrels, except those likely to be of use to the Allies, was scheduled as scrap. On August 4 a cemetery at Narvik, in which 85 British, French and Polish troops are buried, was handed over to Allied care by the local town council.





KING HAAKON INSPECTED 3,000 Allied troops outside the Royal Palace, Oslo, on VJ-Day; among them were men of the British 1st Airborne Division (1), withdrawn from Norway on August 27. On August 20, in the Masonic Temple, Oslo, began the sensational trial of Abraham Vidkun Quisling, former leader of the Norwegian Nazi Party, charged with treason by facilitating the German Occupation in 1940. On the opening day of the trial, as grim-faced Quisling (2, foreground) faced his accusers, his Counsel, Hr. Henrik Bergh (formerly a Resistance leader), poured him a glass of water under the supervision of a Norwegian soldier in British battle-dress.

Among the tasks allotted to our forces was that of destroying vast stacks of Nazi propaganda material ; thousands of books and pamphlets were burned daily (3). Ex-members of the Wehrmacht en route for the Fatherland embarked at a Norwegian port (4). *Photos, British Official, Associated Press*

Jap Resistance Flickers Out in the Sittang Bend

WAITING FOR THE ORDER TO FIRE was this mountain battery of the 14th Army (1) east of Toungoo in Burma, during the monsoon in mid-summer 1945. In the Sittang Bend, where fighting was still reported after the Japanese surrender on August 14, Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, C.-in-C. India, spoke with men of the Royal Tank Regt. (2). In a fox-hole a U.S. Field Service volunteer tended a wounded Gurkha (3). Hunger-weakened Japanese, supporting themselves on sticks (4), were captured while trying to escape.

Photos, British and Indian Official

Radar Helped the Army Gunners to Beat the Blitz

Among the greatest scientific achievements in the field of war was radar, details of which are now released. Its enormous value, in defeating enemy air attack, is here described specially for "The War Illustrated." It was radar, uncannily ingenious, which reinforced the skill of our A.A. gunners to such a degree that Hitler's terror-campaign of doodle-bugs failed in its purpose.

THIS phase of radar, the brain-child of Sir Robert Watson Watt, C.B., Scientific Adviser on Telecommunications to the War Cabinet, and colleague of the other radio "back-room boys," was begun for the Army in conditions of great secrecy on October 31, 1936, under the special care of two of Sir Robert Watt's scientists, Mr. H. Dewhurst and Mr. W. S. Eastwood. As their work progressed, their secret A.A. laboratory was moved to Dunkirk, near Canterbury. They were joined and reinforced by workers from the War Office, and there came into being the magic letters "G.L."—Gun and Light Laying.

Three experimental models of the first radar apparatus for automatically spotting the position of an enemy aircraft for A.A. gunners were made. And on June 20, 1939, Mr. Churchill inspected the first working G.L. radar for the A.A. This gave a bearing accuracy of about one degree on either side of the possible target in the night skies, and a pick-up range for "first warning" of about ten miles.

IN the early months of the War, residents at the edge of green spaces around London were puzzled by the sudden appearance of U.S. bulldozers, the crews of which swiftly levelled the ground. And then about two acres of wire-netting were erected on low posts as a sort of giant spider's web close to the ground. In the centre of the web was a small wooden hut. It can now be told that these webs were the centres of the G.L. system which very rapidly helped the A.A. network to beat the blitz. Mr. L. H. Bedford, a private scientist working for a firm of television manufacturers, was the first to suggest that a height-finding (or, more accurately, elevation finding) attachment could be fitted to the first G.L.s, and as it was necessary to measure the elevation angle above a smooth surface the irregularities in the ground had to be smoothed out.

Radar as at first used by the Ack-Ack crews had the disadvantage that radio echoes were being picked up from the balloon barrage. It was as though a powerful but dispersed searchlight were trained on a forest in the hope of spotting a man walking between the trees. There was another snag, in that manual controls had to be used with the first Army radar equipment to keep the invisible beam fixed on the invisible target.

Looking at An Unseen Target

But by the summer of 1940 scientists working in laboratories of the Ministry of Aircraft Production had produced a "radio-theodolite" with a very narrow beam. German aircraft could be spotted between the wires of a balloon barrage—and as though by a miracle the apparatus trained itself on the target at about 30,000 yards, and then kept the aerials fixed on the bombers no matter how they weaved through the clouds. Canadian scientists were also at work during 1940, and very soon from Canadian workshops came an independently designed version of this G.L., and it was actually in production before the English set.

Within the next 24 months amazing progress was made with the "continuous follow" device, so that G.L. radar aerials were able to keep themselves automatically in line with the enemy bombers. "It is," says one of the scientists who worked on this gear, "an impressive and at first uncanny experience to see the aerial system 'looking' at an unseen target miles away (maybe in cloud, or so far distant that it cannot be distinguished by eye) and following the evolutions of the target unerringly and automatically, its movements to keep the target in 'view' being used to inform the gun predictor, without human intervention, of the target position and velocity."

BEHIND the scenes, scientists in other M.A.P. laboratories had been striving to use tinier wavelengths, of centimetres (less than half an inch) instead of the more familiar metre-length waves of ordinary radio. These give a much narrower invisible pencil of radar waves. The truth was that we were too near the front line. Enemy bombing meant that our Ack-Ack radar posts were in use night and day. We could neither manufacture the latest stuff which scientists had invented, nor stop the war machine to fit the new parts. We had, however, sent a mission to Washington at an early stage in the war and had told the U.S. experts all we knew

"ELSIE"—RADAR EQUIPMENT used in conjunction with Ack-Ack searchlights which enabled the beams of the latter to be switched directly on to the target. See also facing page, and page 320. *Photo, Planet News*

about radar. They copied our ideas, improved on them, brought our own aspirations to reality: and while this was a blow to national pride, when the V1 flying-bomb campaign began we had good reason to be grateful to the American enterprise.

AS the menace began, the coastline of Britain was dotted with tiny, efficient mobile American "SCR.584s"—the only visible sign of which was a huge wire-mesh basket shaped like a rose-bowl and facing towards the launching sights of the flying bombs. Immediately each bomb was launched from the Calais coast the radar vans picked up a signal, and the "wire basket" aerials turned themselves in the direction of the bomb's flight. These amazing robots could actually feed the "rates" of target movement directly into a No. 10 gun predictor.

"This combination led to our remarkable success in shooting down the flying bomb," a scientist stated, "and together with the work of fighter aircraft (which used their own airborne radar weapons) in preventing fully 80 per cent of the missiles from reaching their targets."

Before the V1 menace, scientists had been standing outside a group of huts on the south coast during the first violent raid on Christchurch (on the night of June 20, 1940), and they were anxious at the way searchlight operators had to grope ineffectively about the skies while the bombers droned overhead unseen. This night was the turning point in yet another amazing new device to help the gunners. Its official code-name was S.L.C.—searchlight control; but this did not remain for long before being changed affectionately and unofficially to "Elsie."

Contribution by Jap Inventors

"Elsie" uses five aerials. If you have been close to a large searchlight battery you may have seen the wire-mesh circles behind the little groups of sticks which suffice for aerials on the tiny wavelength of about 10 feet employed. The five aerials give a pair each for "up and down" and "left and right" direction sense, with a fifth to transmit the steady radar beam. The aerials are known as "Yagi"—this being the only material contribution Japanese inventors have made to radar.

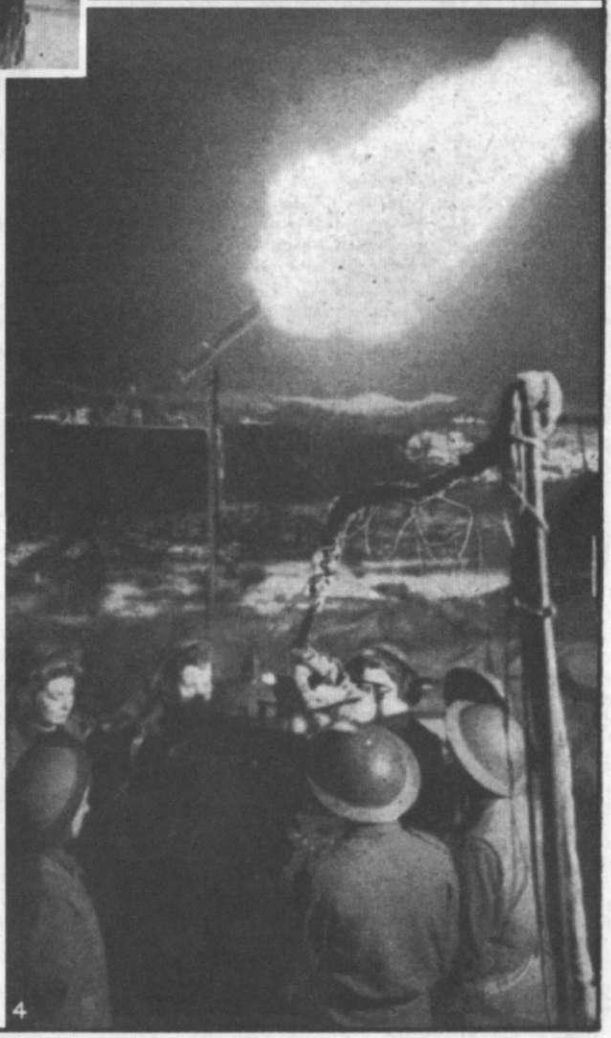
First tests with "Elsie" were so startling that a private message was sent to Mr. Churchill. Lord Cherwell (Churchill's scientific adviser) and Watson Watt gave a report of what "Elsie" could do against the night bombers. Britain was already committed to an overwhelming radio programme, but with characteristic decision Mr. Churchill ordered that a number of sets should be produced with all speed and that "Elsie" should become a top priority job. But for "Elsie," Britain might have been bombed to surrender-point.

"Eighteen sets were produced in a few weeks," I was told, "and they were mostly made from bits and pieces of other equipment by the most intense day and night effort of men and women in the factories. Apart from a few failures the majority of sets worked well—and yet another weapon had been born, the searchlight capable of being directed on to the enemy with the certainty of illuminating him immediately the order 'Expose' was given."

"ELSIE" went into the N. African campaign, and played a big part in the Sicilian landings. We had to land on steeply shelving beaches, and some form of radar predictor for the guns was necessary to protect our armies during the critical hours immediately following the landing. The standard G.L. was too large for the purpose, so somebody at the War Office had the bright idea of sending specially adapted "Elsies" out to Sicily. This would give, they thought, sufficiently good guidance to our Ack-Ack at short range, and the portable gun-laying version of "Elsie" became known, flippantly enough, as "Baby Maggie."

As troops scaled the Sicilian shores, concealed and camouflaged "Baby Maggies" gave warning of Italian and Luftwaffe fighters overhead. The secret radar "Elsies" of the type which had shielded London from the full force of Goering's hatred, most ably protected our first invasion forces in the North African campaign. The supreme example of radar in defence (it was disclosed by Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder on August 14, 1945) was at Malta when the available fighter defence was worn down to almost nothing.

These Were the Uncanny Secrets of A.A. Command



EQUIPMENT FOR SHOOTING DOWN FLYING BOMBS was included in a radar demonstration (1) given in Hyde Park, London, in mid-August 1945. Attached to a light A.A. gun, it transmitted range, bearing and elevation data automatically to a standard predictor controlling the gunfire. Invaluable in the operation of radar were the A.T.S.; a predictor detachment at action stations (2) gives the gunners instructions to fire (4). This Canadian-designed radar set (3) is contained in a cabin which rotates on a trailer for direction-finding; the balloon, when released, is used for checking the accuracy of the set at the closer ranges. See also facing page.

Photos, British Official, P.N.A., Keystone

Now It Can Be Told!

HOW THE NAVY'S PHANTOM FLEET HOAXED THE HUN

FOR nearly two years of the war the Royal Navy used a fleet of wooden warships fitted with dummy guns to hoax enemy reconnaissance aircraft and bombers. They were merchant ships with elaborate superstructures of plywood and canvas, painted to transform them into replicas of R-class battleships and an aircraft carrier.

Dummy warships had been used with success in 1914-18, and in 1939 a new force of dummy ships, known as Fleet Tenders for purposes of security, was constructed on the instructions of Mr. Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty. Three 7,900-ton merchant ships were used: the S.S. Pakeha and S.S. Waimana being turned into the 33,500-ton battleships Revenge and Resolution, and the S.S. Mamari becoming the aircraft carrier Hermes.

They were manned by naval "runner" crews, and their holds were filled with thousands of empty barrels to give them greater buoyancy in the event of their being hit by bombs or torpedoes. Many rumours, which are known to have reached the enemy, were started by the appearance of one of these mystery ships in ports in Scotland and on the Tyne. By 1941 the dummy warships had served their purpose. S.S. Mamari (alias Hermes) had been wrecked off the Wash; the other two were handed back to their owners and still sail as merchant ships.

It was left to a real battleship, the 33-year-old H.M.S. Centurion, disarmed under the Washington Naval Treaty, to carry this imposture into foreign waters. In a fortnight in April 1941, while the Devonport dockyard was under heavy air attack, she was converted into a creditable imitation of the new battleship H.M.S. Anson. She was fitted with a dummy after-funnel, mainmast, main armament and, with a crew of 16 officers and 265 men, set out on a 20,000-mile trip round the Cape that ended at Bombay. In June 1942 she sailed in a Malta convoy that was intercepted by the Italian Fleet. She was repeatedly attacked by bombers, shot down one Stuka, and damaged at least four J.U.188s. Her greatest danger was that her wooden armament might catch fire.

Once, in a monsoon in the Indian Ocean, her dummy "A" turret was swept overboard by a heavy sea, and astonished lookouts in the convoy reported a 14-in. gun floating down the fairway! Perhaps her strangest trip was the voyage home manned by a scratch crew of naval officers and men due for repatriation. Their main armament was half-a-dozen rifles, apart from the dummy guns. When they entered the Suez Canal from the Bitter Lakes a signal was made to the ship from the Senior Naval Officer ashore. "You leave the Pyramids on your left," it said. The Centurion was finally sunk as a blockship off the Normandy coast on D-Day to form a breakwater for landing craft—part of the Mulberry project.

ROYAL NAVY'S DUMMY WARSHIPS which had foxed the Luftwaffe included a replica of the 10,850 tons carrier Hermes, seen (top) at Scapa Flow in July 1940 and (in the left background above) flanked by dummy battleships of the "R" class (38,000 tons)—all merchant vessels camouflaged with wood and canvas, as revealed in this page. *Photos, British Official*

THIS WAS HITLER'S AMAZING PLAN FOR BRITAIN

THERE recently fell into British hands a document which now can be regarded as grimly humorous. Entitled "The Military Administration of England," it was a close secret of the German High Command. From it we learn that Hitler had planned to complete the occupation of this country before September 9, 1940, and it was to be transformed into Germany's main war workshop.

Weapons were to be produced under Nazi direction for the Battle of Russia. To prevent sabotage Field-Marshal von Brauchitsch, then C.-in-C. of all German forces, ordered that the entire male population between 17 and 45 should be deported to the Continent and interned, as soon as possible after Britain was defeated. They were presumably to be distributed on the Continent as slave labourers, and German workers sent to this country to keep the war machine operating with the minimum interruption.

This blue-print for Britain in defeat was mapped out a year before Hitler invaded Russia by a staff of administration experts working under the direct guidance of Von Brauchitsch and General Halder, the chief of staff of the German High Command. Only 195 copies of the document were printed, 78 were distributed among high Nazi authorities and Army officers, the remainder reserved for the archives of the High Command.

VON BRAUCHITSCH, who was relieved of his command by Hitler soon after the Stalingrad debacle, issued a directive that "the chief task of the military administration in England will be to use all the resources of the country for the German war economy." In the German idiom, "England" usually signifies Great Britain, and the document probably applied to all areas of the United Kingdom. Here are some other regulations outlined in the document:

Any person impeding the German war

effort in Britain by starting hostilities will be treated as a guerilla and shot. Hostages will be taken as a "security" measure. National laws in force before the occupation will be maintained only if they are not contrary to the purposes of the occupation. The country's state of health will be considered important only as a safeguard for the resources of the country, and non-fraternization policy for the troops will be enforced on a limited scale.

Death-Threat Hanging Over All

In conversation with the population the utmost reserve is ordered. The enemy's intelligence service will be active, and any fraternization might therefore have severe consequences. Any violence against the population, and looting, will be a Military Court offence and punishable by death. Monuments will be protected. There will be compulsory acceptance of German State banknotes and coins. The rate of exchange will be 9·6 marks to the pound (the pound would thus have been debased to a value of 13s. 7d., according to pre-war exchange rates).

All public utilities, including gas, electricity, the railways and objects of art will be under the special protection of the Army. Sabotage will include the concealment of harvest products. The concealment of firearms, including shot-guns and other hunting arms, will be punishable by death. Severe punishment will be passed by military courts on civilians who associate with prisoners of war, make slurring remarks about the German Army of Occupation or its commanders, circulate pamphlets or organize meetings.

Industrial concerns, and commercial firms, including banks, must be kept open. Closing without adequate reason will be severely punished. German soldiers can purchase what they desire. Instead of cash payment, in many cases, they can issue certificates for the value of the purchase. A military court can use its discretion in trying persons under 18, but may pass death sentence if it sees fit.

Listening to non-German radio broadcasts is a punishable offence. Excepted are non-German radio stations which have been permitted by the occupation army. The death sentence can be passed on persons retaining radio transmitters. A curfew will be imposed from sunset to sunrise.

The following commodities will be requisitioned: Agricultural products of all kinds, ores, mica, asbestos, precious and semi-precious stones, fuel, rubber, textiles, leather and timber. Farmers and dealers, including innkeepers, may only dispose of agricultural products in quantities necessary for the most urgent needs of consumers.

Britain was to be divided into districts in the charge of army commanders, who were to act as "governors." Subordinated to them were field and town units. The document finally reveals that astonishingly intricate arrangements had been completed for our economic enslavement.

"An army economic staff will function under the direct orders of the C.-in-C. of the Army," it states. "It will be installed in all harbours and industrial centres, and will have charge of transporting raw materials and completed war equipment. Immediately upon the defeat of England, administration staffs will join the Armies of Occupation. They will be made up of experts on food, agriculture and industrial production."

—*A.P. Dispatch from Hamburg.*

GANGSTERS FOR COMMANDOS

AMONG recruiting suggestions considered in the early days of the Commandos was whether it would be better to use real toughs or gangsters either from the United States or British cities rather than soldiers. The view taken, it is revealed in "Soldier," the British Army magazine, by Brig. Dudley W. Clarke, who recruited the first Commandos, was that the gangster was too unreliable. The idea was dropped. So, too, was a proposal from a convict who offered to form a Commando of convicts and warders!

SOUTHEND'S "PIER SHIP" was a wartime secret well-kept by the townsfolk of that famous Essex watering-place. On the outbreak of the air raids on Britain a special upper deck was superimposed on the Prince George extension of the pier and a battery of Ack-Ack guns embedded in concrete mounted on it. From here the gunners inflicted heavy toll on the Luftwaffe and the flying bomb. Pulling on their coats, the gun crews (above) raced to action stations on the approach of enemy aircraft heading for London. *Photo, Planet News*

WHITEFIELD MEMORIAL CHURCH, Tottenham Court Road, was completely destroyed on Sunday evening, March 25, 1945, by one of the last rocket bombs to fall on London. Of a congregation of 35, seven were killed. The church—as it was (above left), and (right) after being struck—was named after the famous evangelist, the Rev. George Whitefield (1714-70). Built on the site of a tabernacle he inaugurated in 1756, it was opened in 1903. Whitefield, a remarkable preacher, was credited with over 18,000 sermons.

Problem of Sudeten Germans in Czechoslovakia

A new chapter opened for Czechoslovakia with the restoration of her independence : this time the Czechs are seeing to it that they remain masters in their own country. Sternly they are evicting most of the Sudeten Germans. HENRY BAERLEIN sets out the background of this long-standing minority problem which led to the disintegration of the Republic in 1939.

It may seem surprising that the Germans, invited by the Czech rulers to settle in Bohemia in the 13th century because they were industrious artisans, should subsequently conduct themselves as if they were first-class citizens while they regarded the Czechs as very second-class. But when the Battle of the White Mountain, fought near Prague in 1620, resulted in a dire defeat of the Czechs at the hands of the Hapsburgs and a German domination which lasted for three centuries, there was every encouragement for the Germans in the country to consider themselves a Herrenvolk. The more so, seeing that after the aforesaid battle almost all the Czech Protestant noblemen were decapitated, their estates being given to German and other foreign aristocrats.

At last, in 1918, the Czechs regained the mastership of their own house. There are nations who in similar circumstances would have taken bitter vengeance on their oppressors. The German Parliament at Frankfort in 1848 marked one of the highest points in German democracy ; yet these very democrats strove to crush the last remnants of Czech political autonomy and treated the Czechs as if they were Germans—" Czech-speaking Germans." In their attitude to the Czechs there was no difference between German reactionaries and German democrats.

In 1914, Bethmann Hollweg, Chancellor of the Reich, declared that the war then opening was the struggle of the German world against Slavdom. Although the Czechs

KARL HERMANN FRANK, notorious Sudeten German and instigator of the wiping-out of Lidice (see illus. p. 184), in his prison cell in Prague in August 1945. He is among the war criminals to stand trial at Nuremberg.

avoided fighting when they could, and took every opportunity of going over to the Allies, their casualties were very great. Thousands were executed, greater numbers were imprisoned. Leading politicians were condemned to death or imprisonment. The country was ruthlessly pillaged, and it issued from the war impoverished. Yet when in October 1918 the Czechs were among the victors not a single German was molested. They lost their dominating position, remaining citizens with equal rights in all spheres of private and public life. After a few years President Masaryk gave them three portfolios in the Cabinet. It seemed as if the German citizens had been won over to friendly co-operation within the Republic.

But this hope was justified only so long as international conditions made it inopportune for the Germans to show their real intentions. With the rise of Hitler's power extreme German nationalism sprang up, which was hostile to the Czechoslovak Republic. In March 1938, immediately after the fall of Austria, both the German popular parties, the Agrarians and the Clericals, resigned from the Czech Government. The Social Democratic party continued to resist Nazi influence, and, together with the Communists, it did so for some time most courageously. But in the 1938 elections 92 per cent of the Czechoslovak Germans voted for Henlein, who had assumed the leadership.

After Hitler's arrival in Prague in March 1939—he slept for a night in the Hradshin, the castle of the old Czech monarchs—this small loyal percentage melted away, and during the years of his domination there was no visible sign of protest or disagreement among the Germans of the frontier districts, who are usually called Sudeten Germans. Indeed, throughout the War of 1939-45 they perpetrated more crimes against the Czechs than did the other Germans. They could speak Czech, they were familiar with Czech technique of resistance during the First Great War, and they were the best equipped *agents provocateurs* and tools of the regime. The real ruler of the "Protectorate" was Karl Hermann Frank (portrait in this page), the Sudeten German bookseller, who had gone bankrupt in Carlsbad and thus had a grievance against the Czechs.

Two and a Half Million to Leave

One million three hundred thousand Czechs were carried off to Germany. Tens of thousands were tortured, many of them to death, in concentration camps. The Jews were practically wiped out. There are some who try to excuse the German guilt by saying that they could not imagine what Hitler's regime would mean. But the Sudeten Germans had access to reports from all over the world, and they had a free Press. The Czechoslovak Government and the most important German newspapers, which preserved their liberal tradition to a certain extent, made no secret of what was going on in Germany. Yet, in spite of this—if not because of it—92 per cent and later 99 per cent were for Hitler.

The Czechs have decided not to return like for like, not to torture Germans in concentration camps and not to kill them ; but the majority of Germans will have to leave Czech territory. On July 21, 1945, Dr. Hubert Ripka, Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Trade, stated in London :

A number of Germans will be allowed to remain in the country. However, at least two and a half millions of them will have to leave Czechoslovakia. We must beg our British friends to understand the situation and to help us to solve this problem. The hatred and the distrust of the Germans is so intense that it will be better, even for the Germans themselves, to leave the country. Otherwise—I must state this quite frankly and emphatically—we do not know what may happen to the Sudeten Germans.

Our Government desires to carry out the evacuation gradually and in an organized way. But we are not able to do so as long as the great Powers have not reached an agreed decision on the issue. The Soviet and the French Governments fully share our viewpoint. I have reason to believe that the British and the U.S. Governments are not opposed to it. But the expulsion of the Sudeten Germans has now been stopped because the Allied military authorities on the spot, Soviet as well as American, have received no instructions from their Governments how to act. The Soviet Commanders sympathize with our viewpoint, but the Soviet Government does not wish to force the issue before formal inter-Allied agreement has been reached.

SUDETENLAND, once more Czechoslovakian after seven years of, first, German infiltration, then Nazi military occupation.
By courtesy of News Chronicle

Under the German occupation the Czechs were officially listed as " Subjects of the Protectorate," whereas Germans in Czech territory were " Citizens of the German Reich." Let them then go home to the Reich. To enforce this would not, as some people have said, be to abandon the humanitarian traditions of which the Czechs are rightly proud. So large a number of potential enemies within the State, waiting only for another opportunity, is a threat to which the Czechs do not wish to be exposed. After a struggle of hundreds of years they would like finally to have an opportunity of sleeping in peace. The Germans will not be expelled indiscriminately. Those who fought against Hitler and persevered in the struggle will receive full protection. The Czechoslovak Government is naturally aware of the technical and economic difficulties of this transfer which might create some labour shortage in such industries as glass manufacture, the mines, and so forth. And for humanitarian reasons also it is more than likely that, as the Czechs say, the meal will not be eaten as hot as it is cooked.

Of course, a large number of Germans will depart of their own free will, their consciences not being very easy. A good many have fallen in the war and others have obtained posts in Germany. Those who stay will be given something equivalent to " first papers " in the United States, to be followed by citizenship after a certain period of satisfactory behaviour. The " Committee of the Alliance of Democratic Germans in Czechoslovakia," which was formed here in London, became the rallying point for Germans with sincere Czechoslovak sentiments. This committee has been for some time genuinely serving the interests of the Czechoslovak Germans, especially by warning them against all Pan-Germanism and systematically guiding them to democratic sentiments as loyal Czechoslovak citizens. The Czech Government counts on the co-operation of this committee in the process of re-establishing the Republic.

This will demand much effort, much self-denial and self-sacrifice, and it will also pre-suppose an entirely new conception of the problems involved, a discarding of old ideas and notions which have been rendered obsolete by the course of events, and their replacement by a new intellectual and political approach to the future. Karl Hermann Frank, handed over by the Americans to the Czechs, was lodged by them in that same prison in Prague where by his orders thousands of Czechs had been most brutally tortured.

Photo, Topical Press

'The Last of Our Enemies is Laid Low!'

Broadcasting at midnight on August 14, 1945, the Prime Minister said "Japan has today surrendered. The last of our enemies is laid low!" The next two days were proclaimed public holidays, and the spate of rejoicing that had prematurely overflowed in the welter of rumour became like a mighty torrent in the accomplished fact. This unique scene in Piccadilly symbolized the profound feeling of relief and thankfulness that swept through Britain and the Empire.

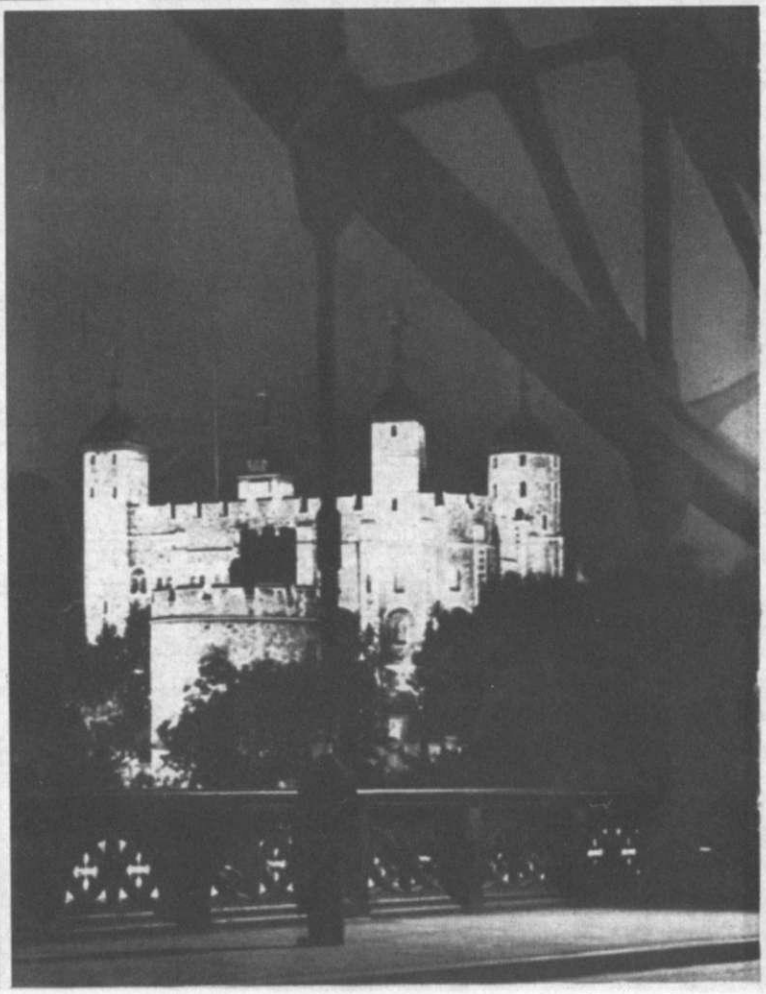
Their Majesties Drive in State to Open Parliament—

At the commencement of the two-day Victory holiday, on the morning of August 15, the King, accompanied by the Queen, drove in an open landau from Buckingham Palace (top left) for the ancient ceremony at the Palace of Westminster. Escort was provided by the Household Cavalry, and the route was lined by troops of the Brigade of Guards backed by cheering spectators. Rain falling steadily damped no-one's ardour, nor did it induce Their Majesties to raise an umbrella (top right).

Photos, P.N.A., G.P.U.

—While Multitudes of Citizens Assemble to Rejoice

Around the Victoria Memorial and down the Mall vast jubilant crowds swayed and surged (bottom): this was the remarkable scene from the roof of Buckingham Palace. All day long and far into the night the throngs, in highest good humour and orderly withal, continued to celebrate. Those able to approach the Palace clamoured again and again for sight of the King and Queen, who made their sixth and last appearance that day on the Palace balcony shortly before midnight.



Monty's Day of Triumph Down Lambeth Way

Photos, Keystone, Fox, Central Press

Lambeth held its own particular "party" on August 15, to acclaim Field-Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery (top) as he drove like a prince in triumph through the streets to the Town Hall to receive the Freedom of the Borough, his birthplace (see also story in page 313). Many of the welcomers, still hoarse with cheering, went at night to swell the crowds that revelled in London's floodlighting: St. Paul's Cathedral (left) and the Tower of London (right) were among the spectacles.

VIEWS & REVIEWS

Of Vital War Books

by Hamilton Fyfe

NEVER in any war before the one that has just ended have war reporters had such marvellous opportunities. When I think of the restrictions we were forced to endure between 1914 and 1918, I am consumed with envy. Yet we were considered to be highly favoured. In this war flying has been as much the reporter's routine as walking or riding in jeeps. The only army that let *me* fly was the Russian, and then I used to go up in such a crazy old Farman machine that I didn't altogether enjoy it.

This time, along with the enlarged opportunities, there have been many galling disappointments for men sent out to gather news of the far-flung battle-line. Take the case of Mr. Leonard Marsland Gander, on the staff of The Daily Telegraph, who has written a book called Long Road to Leros (Macdonald & Co., 10s. 6d.). Leros is a small island in the Aegean Sea. Mr. Gander's road to it began with a visit to Iceland, then he was ordered to Singapore at the time when "the situation in Malaya looked already desperate." He did not get there. By the date of his arrival by sea, at Mombasa, Malaya had been lost. He received a cable telling him to "proceed Rangoon earliest." But before he could get nearer to Burma than Calcutta, Rangoon had fallen too. Now his office cabled him to go immediately to Ceylon. He went: as soon as he reached there he was asked if he would like to go to sea in an aircraft carrier, which was about to join in operations of an offensive character in the Indian Ocean.

Long-Distance Naval Actions

He jumped at the chance of seeing a naval engagement, but unfortunately for him it turned out to be a "phantom battle." Although not a single shot was fired at the enemy, "the threat of our presence turned him back," and the whole incident made Mr. Gander believe that "naval actions of the future will be fought in the decisive stages between fleets which are invisible to each other, hundreds of miles apart. It will be a clash of air power, and only when one side or the other has lost its wings will the battle-fleet be able to use its strength." This would, comments the author, "be after all a logical continuation of the history of naval warfare. Once, the sailor had to get to grips by boarding; then, as the range of naval gunnery increased, so the distance at which actions could be fought extended."

IT gives me a shiver to read of a future where, in the writer's opinion, war will be still one of the chief industries of mankind. How the atomic bomb would affect fighting at sea could not be taken into account for the purpose of this forecast; when Mr. Gander wrote his book nothing was known about this newest and most devastating of weapons. Until we can learn a great deal more about it and its effects, it seems to me to be useless to speculate on the manner in which human beings will destroy one another, if they persist in doing so, in years to come.

His voyage in the aircraft carrier ended, not at Colombo, where it had begun, and where Mr. Gander had left most of his baggage, but at Bombay; and there, after writing and with the greatest difficulty dispatching a message about the naval operations in which he had taken part, he received instructions to go to the Burmese Front. The story of that message is worth notice, as an illustration of the obstacles put in the way of the war reporter, even when he has been given special chances to produce good "copy." Mr. Gander asked if it could be radioed. He was told it could not, but if he would submit to Admiral Somerville's blue pencil going over it, it could go by cable. He sent it in, full of hope that it would quickly be on its way. But in three days' time he had it back. The authorities at Delhi declined to let it be cabled. They suggested "Send it by air mail." So by air mail it went. It reached the Admiralty in Whitehall but went no farther. It was quietly suppressed. That is the kind of maddening misfortune which every newspaper man has had to endure when obliged to submit what he writes to censorship. It seems to have happened with painful frequency to Mr. Gander's dispatches. Luckily he was able to send his account of an interview with Field-Marshal Wavell by Army signals wire, and it reached his office.

THIS happened just after he had arrived on the Burma frontier. He sketches the general "who gave Britain her first real military victory in the war, in the desert campaign" as a man with "a mastiff head and a face so lined and wrinkled that he would have seemed more than his three-score years but for his extremely vigorous manner and burly, youthful physique. His one eye, that of a highly intelligent man, roved abstractedly as he spoke. We had, I believe, interrupted him in his favourite relaxation, the solving of difficult crossword puzzles, at which he is particularly adept."

50,000 Miles With a War Reporter

Of General Alexander, as he was then, Mr. Gander says that "he has a forbidding, almost supercilious appearance, given him by his drooping upper lids, his close-clipped moustache, his prominent rounded jaw, and his Guardee style cap. There is nothing supercilious about him, however, except superficial looks, for he has the most charming, unaffected if entirely direct manner." Mr. Gander was able to give him two half-bottles of whisky, which were very welcome in the jungle, where evening meals had to be eaten in darkness because of stringent black-out and where night was "made hideous by howling hyenas, mosquitoes, croaking lizards and sweat." Again misfortune befell Mr. Gander's dispatch from the Burma border. It was sent off by naked native runner in a sealed waterproof tin. Later, when he reached the place to which it was addressed and whence it should have been sent on by wire, he was greeted by a British sergeant who said casually, "I think I've got a package for you." It contained the report sent by "those cheerful and dauntless native runners."

WHILE he was still lamenting this blow, Mr. Gander had a cable from Fleet Street: "Can you get to Moscow quickly?" The quickest way was to go by Baghdad and Persia, but no sooner had he arrived at Teheran when he was told in another cable, "Regret Moscow off. Complete your visit and return India." Back in Delhi he ran across General Wingate and found that "anybody less like the conventional idea of the hardy bronzed soldier and man of action could hardly be conceived. He had a thin, pallid and aesthetic face" (I think Mr. Gander must have meant "ascetic") "with a long bony nose. He was a great talker and, as he talked rapidly on an immense variety of subjects, leaning earnestly forward, a rebellious lock of his thick brown hair would fall over his forehead. He did not smoke and hardly ever took strong drink. It was hard to associate this gentle, mild-mannered man with his reputation as a ruthless, resourceful jungle fighter and brilliant guerilla leader. Only when he began to dogmatize on some favourite subject could you get a glimpse of the iron will and the driving power in that frail frame."

LEONARD MARSLAND GANDER was the only war correspondent to witness the heroic British defence of the Dodecanese island of Leros in November 1943. This and other of his experiences are described in the book here reviewed. *Photo, The Daily Telegraph*

From Delhi Mr. Gander flew to Cairo in accordance with an order from his office to join the Eighth Army in the Middle East. But he was too late. The Eighth Army had left; it was concentrating for the invasion of Sicily. Then followed "weary fruitless months in which nothing happened. The 'forgotten' war correspondents in Egypt grew more and more despondent at our inactivity." However, everything comes to him who waits. In September 1943, after the Italian surrender, the Germans started attacking the islands in the Aegean known as the Dodecanese (there are twelve of them, and "dodeka" is the Greek for twelve). Mr. Gander was told by the British army authorities he could go in that direction if he "made his own arrangements." That, you can guess, was a very difficult job, but at last after encountering many obstacles, he managed to land on Leros just before the German invasion began.

Gun Barrel Became White-Hot

There was a small British force on the island and a good many Italians, who were no use at all, with a few exceptions, such as an Ack-Ack gunner who "fired with great verve and prodigality till the barrel of his gun went white hot" and did some useful, accurate shooting, too. If the attack had been made only from the sea, it would certainly have been repelled. But, in spite of the unsuitability of the rocky surface, parachutists were dropped in large numbers and gradually the defence was worn down. At last Mr. Gander had his chance, and his story of this little engagement went all over the world. He escaped before the surrender in order to send it.

He had wandered far and wide, travelled 50,000 miles at least, seen many lands, suffered many disappointments, but he struck good fortune at last. And he was collecting all the time materials for a very entertaining book.

We Helped the Dutch With Their Harvesting

AT AN AMSTERDAM LABOUR Exchange British troops offered their services as harvesters to worried Dutch farmers. A hearty welcome awaited each volunteer on arrival in the fields (right).

IN RESPONSE TO A BROADCAST APPEAL by the Netherlands Prime Minister in mid-July to the effect that "though the corn stands yellow in the fields there are not the men," British soldiers lent a hand—and Dutch newspapers carried the headline "The Tommies Help!"

HOLLAND'S GRATITUDE

AT Buckingham Palace on August 19, 1945, there were delivered to Their Majesties a letter and a bunch of flowers—the simple gift of Netherlanders who had served in Britain during the war. The flowers, picked that morning from some of the fields of Holland, were brought to England by plane and, with the letter, were presented to Queen Elizabeth by the Netherlands Ambassador, His Excellency Jonkheer van Verduynen. Here is the letter :

None of us has yet had an opportunity to thank the men and women of Britain who received us in their midst, not as refugees but as guests, and who have put up with us and our thousands of fellow-exiles year after year. It is to these, our patient and generous hosts, that we now crave to say, "Thank you and thank you again."

To the Ministers of State and the Members of Parliament who threw beleaguered Britain's doors wide open to the highest and lowest of us, and thus enabled some of us to hoist again our country's flag and all of us to serve it. To the ministers of God, in whose churches many of us have found that which can raise even the most sorely tried above the fears and sorrows of exile. To the soldiers, sailors, and airmen who protected us. To the farmers who fed us, the landlords who housed us, the miners who warmed us, the drapers who clothed us, the shopkeepers who served us, the doctors who cured us. To the housewives who allowed us our place in the longest of queues, and to the publicans who allowed us our share in the shortest of stocks. To the Bobbies who told us the way, and the cabbies who helped us to get there. To the air-raid wardens with whom we wardened, and the fire-watchers with whom we fire-watched. To the telephone operators who never lost their patience at our most weird pronunciations.

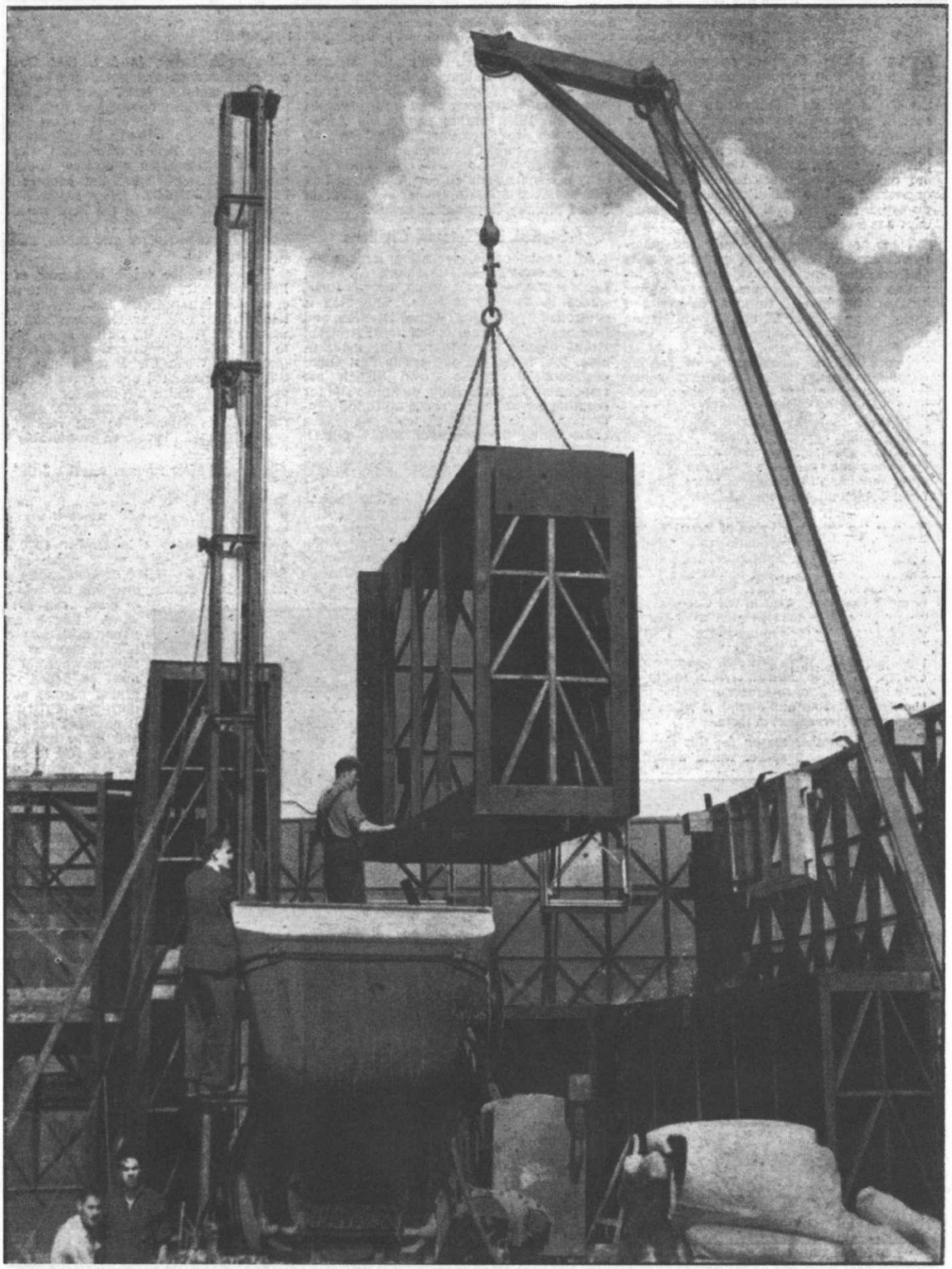
YOUR Majesties, in leaving your people to go home, our hearts are so full that there is much else we should like to say. But rather than speak we would do something, something that tells more convincingly of our feelings than mere words can do. But what use is a commemoration plaque, or even such a modest monument or gift to charity as our mere handful could provide, to the housewives, the bus-conductors, or the farmers of Britain? None, indeed. And so, forced to admit our inability to accompany this letter with 44,000,000 presents, we thought of something else. We thought that if we wanted to give some small pleasure to all the people of Britain there was only one way to do it, and that was to send our gift to those two persons whose joys are shared by all Britons in like measure, as all Britons' joys are shared by them. That, then, is why we decided to send these few flowers, picked from our own recovered fields, to Your Majesties, asking that you will accept them not only as a token of our gratitude, but also as an earnest of the resolve which is engraved in all our hearts in these four words :

WE SHALL NOT FORGET !

"GOOD-BYE—AND THANKS!" waved these young Netherlanders to departing Tommies who had helped to gather in the crops of 1945. Pulling flax (left) was one of the important tasks; the soldier engaged on this back-breaking job had helped to build Bailey bridges at Arnhem and Nijmegen.

Photos, Pictorial Press

Mulberry Methods to Give Britain New Houses



"MULBERRY" HARBOUR CAISSONS were made of concrete, and similar methods of construction are now being tried in the erection of permanent houses. By building only the front of brick and the other walls of concrete 12 ins. thick a considerable saving of skilled labour is effected. The concrete is poured between the outer framework, already in place, and steel shuttering, a section of which is here being lowered into position on an experimental site in Middlesex. The brick-front is left to the last so that the concrete mixer and other equipment can be removed.

Royal Signals Have the Gloves Off in Germany

British Military Control serves out no soft treatment to German civilian workers. First perhaps to acknowledge the truth of this would be the employees of the supremely important communications system there. How these are supervised and controlled by the Royal Signals—present managers of Reich telecommunications in our zone—is explained by Capt. MARTIN THORNHILL, M.C.

THE whole German communications system in the British-occupied zone is in the charge of officers and men of the Royal Signals. This is the most important service in the country; upon its successful operation depends the smooth running of the entire economic system. Under this rigorous supervision German workers are outshining even the sternest Nazi-run organization; for the disciplined efficiency displayed by the Royal Signals in fighting days was a byword.

These are the men who built and maintained hundreds of miles of metallic strands and countless radio links forming the invasion army's vast communications web over beaches, mountains, through forests and rivers, tying together all units, co-ordinating the whole attack. As rapidly as areas were absorbed in the advance, Signals would go to work on the rehabilitating of existing telephone lines. Under withering sniper fire linesmen repaired damage done to overhead circuits by artillery, mortar and small arms fire; soldering defective splices, transposing wires to clear cross-talk, replacing insulators shattered by retreating infantry, fixing new poles for those splintered by heavy guns, re-tying and re-sagging wires until reliable communication was effected.

IT was the specific mission of Royal Signals to weave and maintain this network with one hand while fighting off the foe with the other. For the swift tempo and varied needs of mechanized total war made it imperative that every man in the Corps should be fully battle-trained as well as expert in every aspect of communications. That is the measure of the training which qualifies the present managers of Reich telecommunications, and their German civilian employees have no option but to square up to the stern standard of labour and discipline which their soldier overseers expect of them.

There is another reason for this rigorous control. This is a sphere where watertight surveillance is vital. Only the strictest compliance with military orders can ensure British Army of the Rhine lines of communication, with secret circuits for messages in code. These are to enable the Army, should this prove necessary, to function with the same measure of security as it did throughout the invasion campaign. A second priority is hospitals and doctors, but no civilian can be linked up with Exchange without an Allied Military Government permit.

Staffed by German Civilians

All switchboards, including large automatic exchanges like Düsseldorf, Mülheim, Essen and München Gladbach, are, of course, staffed by German civilians. This area is controlled by the 53rd (Welsh) Division, and here again the system comes under stringent Royal Signals supervision. Line maintenance, too, is the job of German Post Office engineers. But while Royal Signals are responsible for supervision, discipline and for ensuring general maintenance up to the highest possible standard, cable work and repairs come within the sphere of British G.P.O. technicians, who form a large section of the Royal Signals and have been working with them throughout the war.

At Hamburg, where much of the damage to the city was caused by fire, underground cable systems are in a reasonably sound state. But in the industrial Ruhr, where destruction was largely due to the deep penetration of H.E. bombs, these systems are in a chaotic condition. Here German P.O. engineers are tasting the fruits of reprisals for their countrymen's handiwork in Britain, for the problem of bombed cable repairs in the Rhineland areas is on the pattern of that which (as described in the next column) once applied to the County of London, only larger.

"LONDON CALLING!" Background to the Berlin Conference in July was the communications service for over a hunderd Allied Press correspondents. Working without a break, two Golden Arrow wireless sections of Royal Signals maintained a 24-hour service which reached its peak on July 20, when 40,823 words were transmitted. A Berlin operator takes down a message from London (above). Instrument mechanic at work (right). *Photo, British Official*

So much larger, in fact, that German cable engineers have a task that will keep them busy for months. And, since it is so important to British occupation, speeding the work with stern rigour equal to that exacted by Royal Signals in the Exchanges, are many of those same British technicians who extricated Britain from a colossal communications catastrophe when this country itself became a battlefield. They are men who learned their lessons in the hard school of reconstruction along a 20 million-mile network of smashed wires and cables, most of it underground.

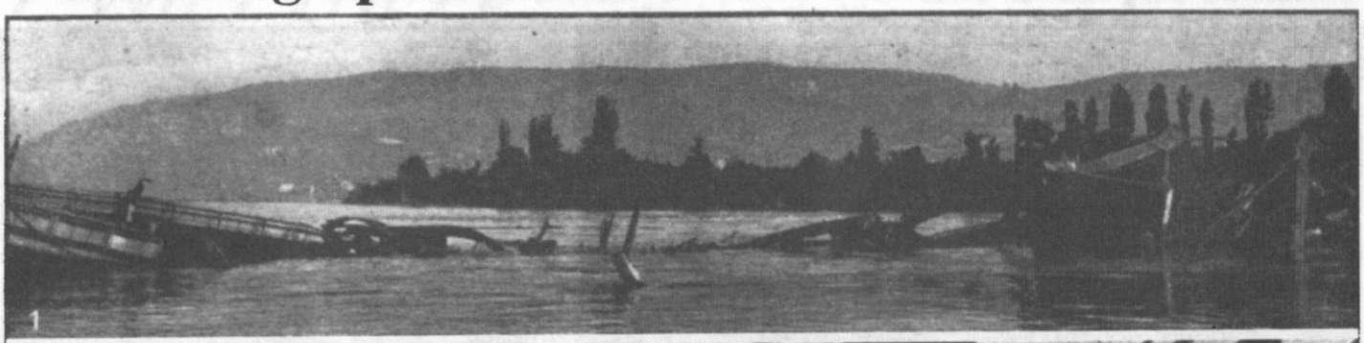
Throughout the tragic walk-over of the Battle of France these Wire Men were there, contriving extraordinary measures to maintain vital contacts between armies and units which were perpetually on the move, unable to give advance information of their next locations. When the Expeditionary Force was being evacuated under grave difficulties via Dunkirk, had it not been for the skilled feats of these Royal Signals P.O. engineers the contacts essential to the retreat and evacuation might have been irretrievably lost.

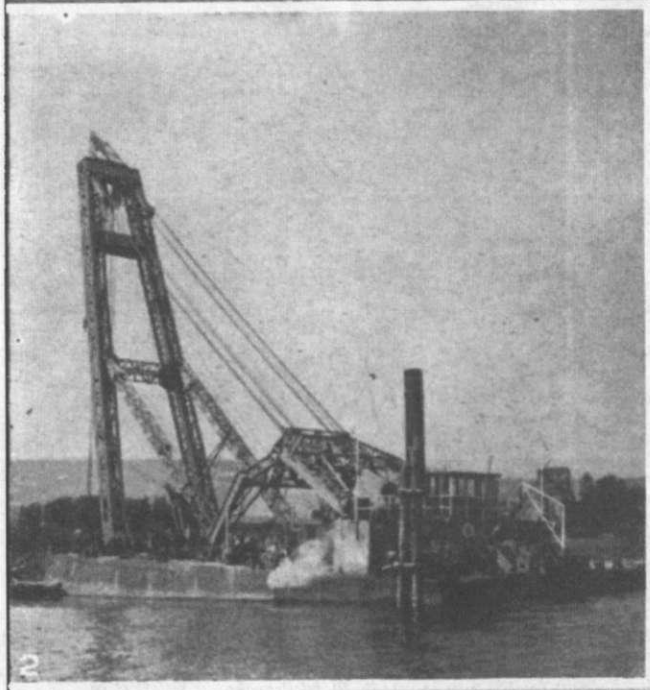
ONLY at the last moment was this little band of telecommunications men extricated from Dunkirk, to be hurled a few months later into a nightmare for which it would be difficult to find a parallel. In the London area alone, between September 1940 and September 1941—the worst phase of the Battle of Britain—1,700 separate cables were fractured by bombs, involving the rejoining of more than 500,000 wires. For a single phone cable may contain as many as 2,800 separate wires, and each must be joined to its proper partner at the other side of the break. It was work for skilled and brave men, since the job had to go on day and night, bombs or no bombs, in fair weather or foul, unhurried and unresting.

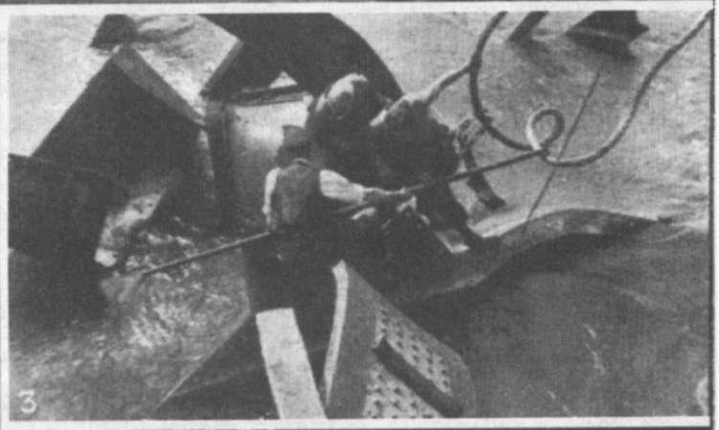
Three hundred miles of wire were laid in the devastated streets in the weeks following raids which burned out half a square mile of the City of London and scattered H.E. bombs among the flaming streets and buildings. It meant, as well, the jointing of 250,000 pairs and the soldering of 100,000 points. Under the worst blows which Britain suffered—at one period there were 92 successive days of raids on London—communications scarcely faltered. Contacts between the all-important Defence Services were uninterrupted.

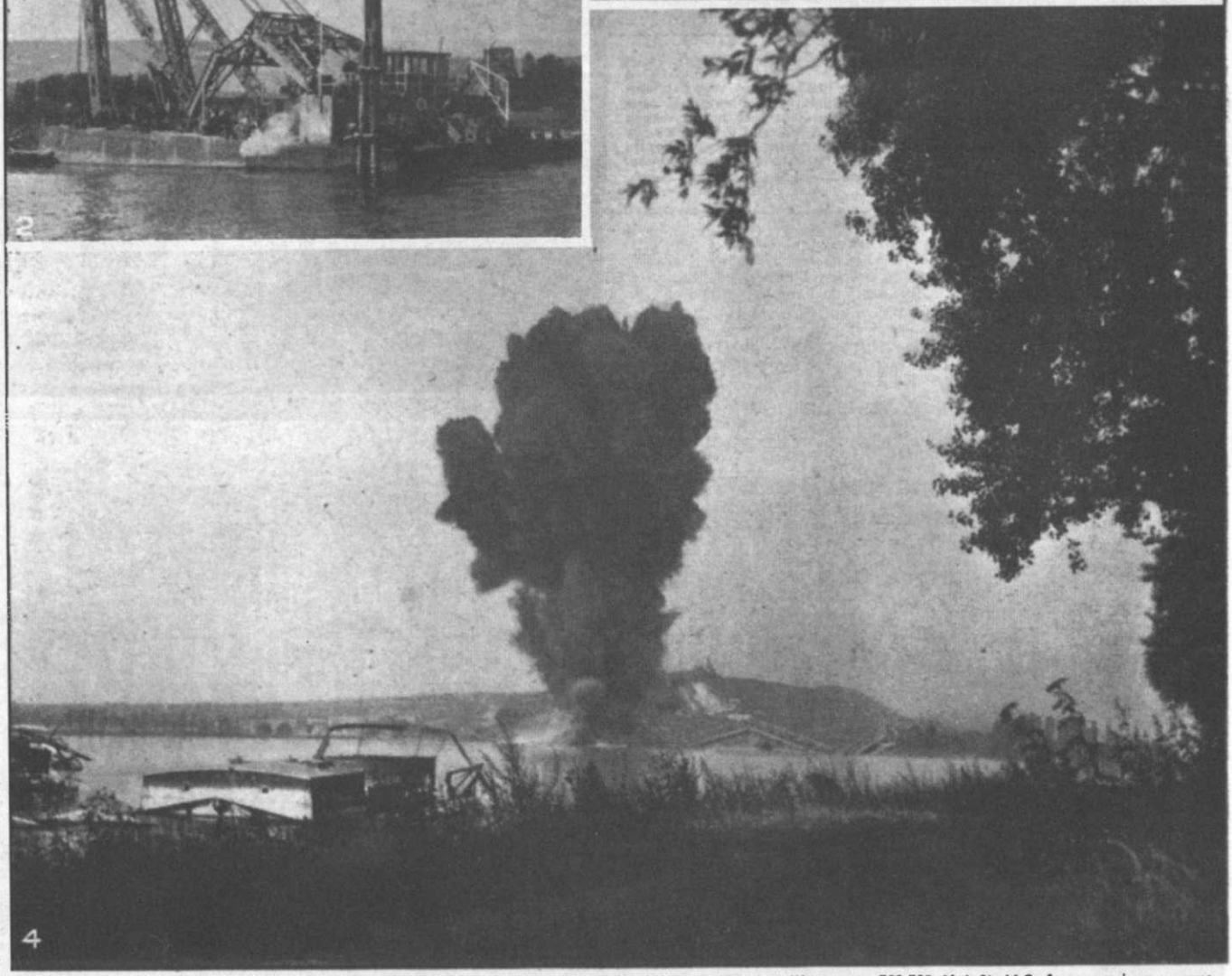
"PEOPLE at home think," a Royal Signals officer told me, "that we are giving the Germans kid-glove treatment, but I can assure you that the gloves are off." And while they are off the hands of men with the backgrounds of Royal Signals and the G.P.O. engineers who serve with them, there is little cause for disbelieving his statement. The iron hand is not a rôle which falls happily on the British soldier, but there is not a man among them—and certainly not in the Royal Signals—who does not realize the urgency of ending for all time and by every fair means the ridiculous myth of "The Master Race."

Cleaning-up the Rhine for Peacetime Traffic





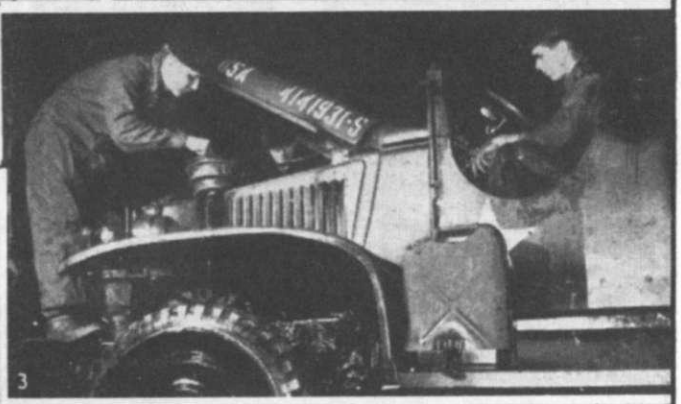




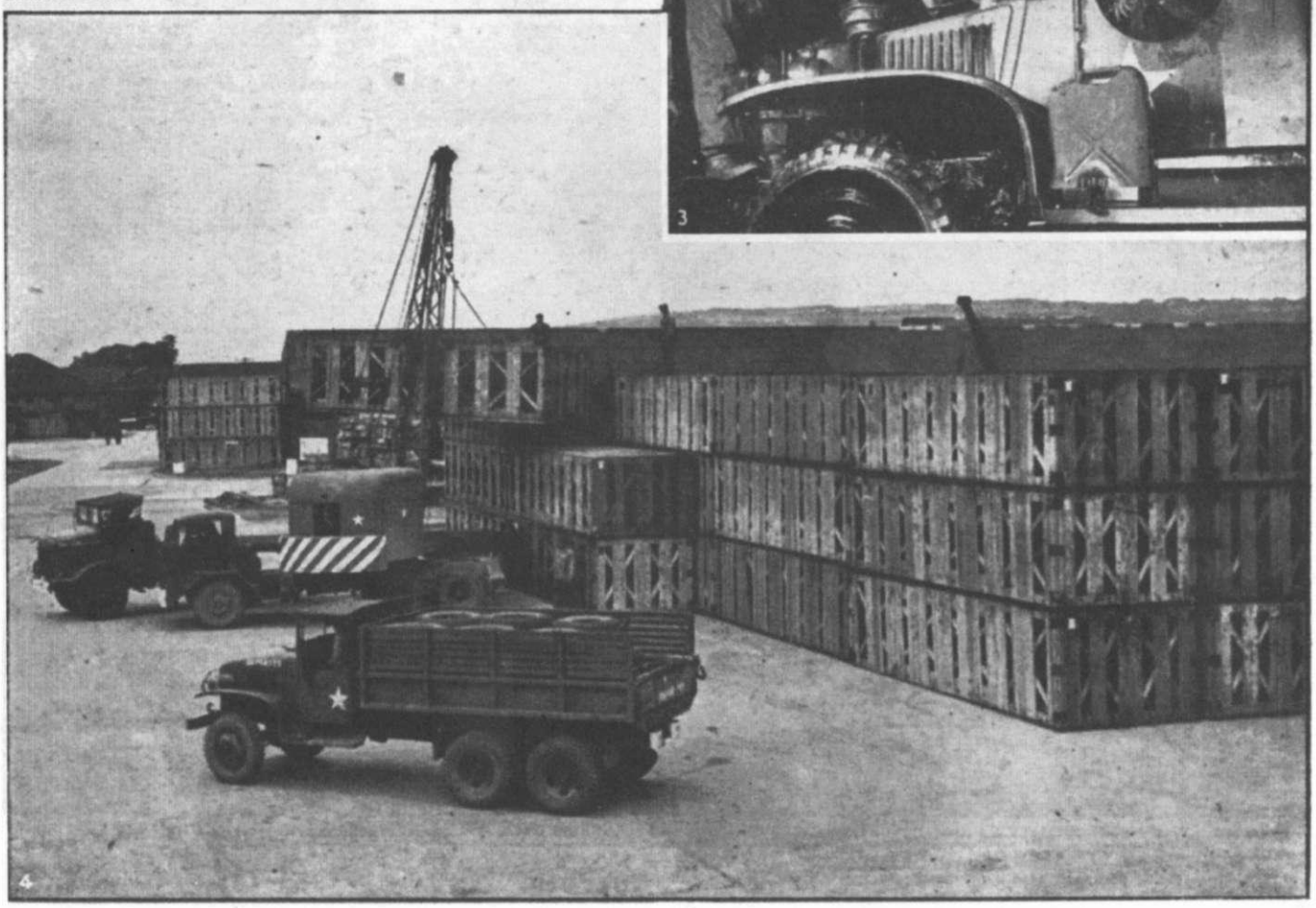
FIVE MONTHS AFTER MONTY'S FAMOUS CROSSING of the Rhine on March 23-24, 1945 (see illus. pages 783-785, Vol. 8), U.S. Army engineers were still removing the wreckage of the river's several bridges blown up by the retreating enemy. Among these obstacles were the remains of the Hindenburg Bridge at the famous tourist centre of Rudesheim (1), near Wiesbaden. Helping to clear the river for traffic, a monster crane (2) capable of handling up to 250 tons was employed on the bridge, a large fragment of the wreckage of which (3) was made secure after the devastating explosion (4) that blasted a passage through the central spans.

Photos, U.S. Official

God-Speed to America's Homebound Warriors



ABOARD THE QUEEN MARY, 15,060 men of the U.S. 30th Infantry Division left Southampton (1) on August 17, 1945, for New York. Their task in Britain completed, 35,000 U.S. Army vehicles were by mid-August being reconditioned, sprayed with rust-preventive and packed for the voyage home. Stripped to its minimum length and height, this truck (2) was swung by mobile crane on to the base of a crate. German P.O.W. (3) helped to render rust-proof the ignition system of other trucks. Crated vehicles (4) at Ashchurch, Glos., waiting to be taken to a British seaport. *Photos, U.S. Official, Keystone*



I Was There! Eye Witness Stories of the War

We Had a Night Without Parallel in London

End-of-the-war celebrations on the night of August 15, 1945, were on a scale without precedent in the Capital's picturesque history. All previous celebrations paled by comparison. Boisterously, hundreds of thousands of revellers kept up the fun into the small hours of the following day, as told by News Chronicle reporters. See also illus. pages 303-306.

THERE was dancing round floodlit Nelson's column, and in Piccadilly Circus where a middle-aged portly man, standing nine feet above the crowd on top of the traffic lights and placidly smoking his pipe, might almost have filled the place of Eros. London's streets everywhere echoed to the noise of singing and whistling. Every now and then rockets shot up from tall buildings, and Very lights like multi-coloured butterflies lit the sky. But perhaps the most impressive of all sights was that of the cross above St. Paul's silhouetted in the beams of two searchlights.

Outside Buckingham Palace a crowd of 200,000 chanted for the King and Queen, who made several appearances on the balcony. From six o'clock onwards all roads led to Piccadilly, Trafalgar Square and Buckingham Palace. Whole families journeyed, buying paper hats and whistles and rattles on the way, from the East End, and places as far away as Barnet and Wimbledon, Mitcham and Chiswick. They came in such numbers that early in the evening, a bright cloudless evening after a day of showers, traffic was diverted. No buses passed through the Strand, Trafalgar Square and Piccadilly. Had they tried they could not have got through—the crowds were so dense.

THEY came, many of them, without suppers. Restaurants and public houses had since noon displayed their "Sold out" signs. But there were plenty of fruit barrows selling plums, pears and apples. So Londoners made an evening meal of fruit. By eight o'clock a solid mass of people jammed the area from Piccadilly, extending south and east to Trafalgar Square.

Trafalgar Square was packed with people assembled to hear the King's Speech. At nine o'clock the King's voice was heard and all singing was hushed. There were no more fireworks, no chatter. When the King had finished his message to his people there went up a cheer such as Trafalgar Square had not heard for a long time. It went on for what seemed endless minutes.

The noise and singing and pushing and the exploding of fireworks was almost entirely the work of young men who would have had to fight the Japanese war. But the songs they sang were not those of victory, but such popular and traditional favourites as In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree, Yi, Yi, Yippy, and Old Father Thames.

Mr. Attlee received a tumultuous welcome when he appeared on the balcony of the Ministry of Health building with Mr. Bevin and Mr. Herbert Morrison. "We are right to rejoice at this victory of the people, and it is right for a short time that we should relax," said Mr. Attlee.

Thousands of people packed the court of Westminster Gardens to cheer Mr. Churchill. In response to roars of "We want Churchill," Mr. Churchill made six appearances at his window. Then the crowd sang For He's a Jolly Good Fellow.

Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret left Buckingham Palace before 11 o'clock to mingle with the crowds. With an escort of two plain clothes officers they walked to the front of the Palace and watched the King and Queen make another appearance on the balcony. The Princesses were surrounded by cheering men and women. Police told them that the Princesses wished to be treated as private individuals and they were allowed to go on their own and see what they wished.

Just before midnight there were still many thousands of people outside the Palace fixing their eyes on the floodlit Royal Standard, cheering and calling for the King. Women outside the Palace fainted and ambulance men and policemen lifted them over the heads of the crowd and on to the stands in front of the Victoria Memorial. More than 150 people were injured in the West End by exploding fireworks. Thirty-five people had to receive hospital treatment for eye injuries, facial burns, and other mishaps. Superintendent Treneamin, of the Poplar Division, St. John Ambulance, said: "This is a million times worse than VE night!"

There were more private cars out in London than at any time since the rationing of petrol began. The Embankment, to which a lot of traffic was diverted at times was black with vehicles all crowded to capacity. The whole of South, East and North London was ablaze with hundreds of bonfires, fed with tons of debris that had lain on bombed sites as a melancholy memorial to the blitz and the V-bombs. To see characteristic Cockney rejoicing one had to go to places like The Angel at Islington, Notting Dale or Kennington.

I went to Lambeth Walk where they had a score of bonfires. "There's a good few men out in the Far East who will be wondering what's going on in the Walk tonight," an old lady said to me as she watched the broken stairs, window frames, doors, joists and flooring dragged from the bomb-wrecked buildings and built into huge stacks that were fired at nightfall.

A huge bonfire was built on the tiled bottom of the derelict Lambeth Baths and children climbed on to ruined walls to watch and cheer. The whole area was smothered with flags and bunting and fairy-lights twinkled in the windows. London firemen received more than 100 calls inside an hour and a half. They were mostly made by nervous residents alarmed by bonfires!

The Welcome We Gave to Lambeth's Own Monty

"Local boy who made good" became, with all due ceremony, a Freeman of the Borough of Lambeth on August 15, 1945. This was that Monty who 50-odd years ago sprawled and tumbled and got into fixes in the vicarage of St. Mark's, where his father was the parson. How the great Field-Marshal received the people's thanks on this day is told by John Redfern, of The Daily Express. See also illus. page 306.

LUCKY Lambethites! Frisking in the beflagged streets and cheering for victory, with the architect of their new-found fortune there, standing in a landau and saluting with a smile, while the beaming policemen and firemen leaned backwards on 30,000 people who wanted to clap him on the back.

The idea was that the Metropolitan Borough of Lambeth would admit this famous lad to the honorary Freedom. That, indeed, was duly done according to the rubrics. But it was the Joes and Alfs and their womenfolk who really made this Monty's day—for him and for themselves. It was his day all right. The crowds spilled into the Brixton Road and flooded the junction against the town hall.

He entered the borough at Westminster Bridge, this chirpy-looking little man with seven rows of ribbons and knife-edge battle-

VICTORY BONFIRE in London's West End, shortly after the midnight peace announcement was made, had its counterpart in unnumbered instances wherever inflammable material was to hand. In the delirious joy of the occasion, park seats, doors and hoardings were used to feed the flames. Darkness resounded to the din of motor-horns, bells, whistles, drums and clanging dustbin lids. Daylight in Piccadilly Circus found dustmen busy clearing up the debris (right). See story above.

Photos, Keystone, Planet News

MONTY AT LAMBETH TOWN HALL on August 15, 1945, after receiving the Freedom of the Borough. On his left, the Mayor. See also illus. page 306. *Photo, G.P.O.*

dress trousers. He was three minutes early. Typical! So the Mayor's landau wasn't ready, and he sat for a moment in his "Priority" labelled motor-car. Then someone in the throng took an observation and bawled "Oi!" They simply surged forward then, and it was a good job the Mayor's landau turned up on time. Through Kennington Road and Brixton Road Montgomery went in triumph. After the conquest of Germany here was a conquest of hearts, all done in five minutes.

"Good old Monty!" That was the rallying cry now. They took it up; from the men standing dizzily on the roofs to the squeaking children all mixed up with the sturdy policemen and the police horses, fussing and tending one and all. As the Field-Marshal walked, slowly for him, up the steps to the town hall he gave a quick look at the glaring, sultry sky.

Was he remembering? This day, 1944, thunderstorms thrashed the reeking ground about Falaise. The gap was almost closed and Montgomery waited while the rumour ran that Rommel was dead.

Then we quietened down a bit to listen to the loudspeaker versions of speeches within, while the 70 aldermen and councillors sat solemnly and the Field-Marshal fingered his battledress. Outside, the horses fidgeted and the children wriggled (those with any room), but we listened. For now Lambeth was surely speaking for England:

"I submit the motion with some confidence. Behind him is the shadow of every man and woman who has joined in these great adventures; these glorious deeds in Sicily and Italy, the waterlogged fields of Holland, and finally in triumph across the Rhine." The carefully-thought-out phrases flowed over our heads; inside, the guest of honour was thoughtful.

Memories again, Field-Marshal? This day, 1943, the Germans were running from Messina and you were planning to move your caravan headquarters from that dusty field near Lentini to the heights of Taormina, where you directed presently the assault on the Italian mainland.

They gave him the scroll in a casket, with a base of wood from the war-maimed church of St. Mark, where young Bernard said his first prayers. They wished him "Long life, good health, great happiness, and peace—all of which you richly deserve!" We crammed and jostling outsiders said "Aye!" or "Oi!" We cheered with such good heart I had my fears for the men perched on the tall roofs. The blast must have been truly terrific!

Montgomery rose, his head on one side, his voice crisp, just as though he was addressing an eve-of-the-battle conference at "Army Group." He had taken our measure. The little man knew. "I like to think that my welcome is meant as a mark of your gratitude to those wonderful fighting men who have won the final victory we enjoy today." Just that. And every mother in the crowd with a son in this war, living or dead, was still with a great pride, and every father opened his mouth to cheer the speaker—and found that somehow his voice had gone rusty; something to do with his heart.

These fighting men . . . This day, 1942, Montgomery was the new commander of the Eighth Army, and Rommel was at Mersa Matruh.

Great Eighth Army, you had a long way to travel, but on your way you slogged, inspired by this man!

Somehow Monty managed to get through the thousands to the Empress Theatre, where he spoke again to 2,500 ticket-holders. There he gave them a slogan, first used by an Eighth Army sergeant-major in Tripoli days: "We will see this thing (the task of reconstruction) through to the end." And there we gave him The Warwickshire Lad, regimental march of his old regiment, and For He's a Jolly Good Fellow.

Pulling his beret well down he went off to the crowds again, this new Freeman. These days a Freeman receives no special privileges. No free travel round the borough or anything like that. But Monty went away with the freedom of our affections; the little man we love.

Two 'Grand Old Cabs' with the Pacific Fleet

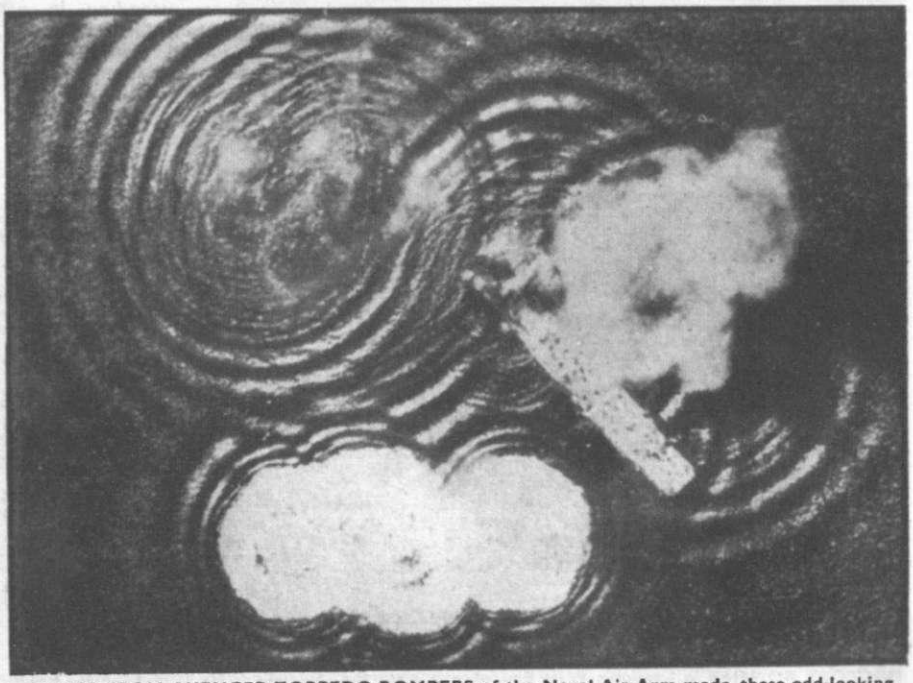
For the two months April–May 1945 the fleet maintained constant operations against the Sakishima Group, a vital link in the Formosa–Kyushu defence chain. This involved over 4,000 sorties, the destruction of over 100 Jap planes, and the hazardous task of refuelling and transferring stores at sea. This account, by Sub.-Lt. (A) D. Ash, R.N.V.R., who flew on one of the strikes, was written specially for "The War Illustrated."

AFTER many months waiting, our crew ("Abe" the pilot, and "Fozz" the air-gunner) joined a fleet carrier. During March, as one of several reserve Avenger crews, we followed the fleet in an escort ship. Many miles from land, she had come out from operations to refuel and take on supplies. Rocket lines were fired between ships, followed by thick cables, and soon, "all hands on deck" were heaving them taut, as large canvas bags went back and forth with supplies. Abe was almost the first of these "supplies," over to a destroyer and then to the carrier. Fozz and I were luckier; we were flown over.

Next day the fleet, with battleships in the centre and carriers on each side, ringed by escort destroyers, steamed back to the operational area. Ahead, two Avengers kept an anti-sub patrol, and fighters maintained an all-day air defence against possible Kamikazes. The planes that got through did no great damage; no ships were put out of operation. The fleet's task was to bomb the island runways and prevent their use by any reinforcement aircraft coming up from the south to attack the Americans on Okinawa. Avengers and Corsairs were responsible for keeping the Japs busy night and day filling in bomb craters. Towards mid-May the Japs "threw in the towel."

This was the climax of the amazing growth of the Fleet Air Arm during the war. The Swordfish, which did such great work at Taranto—with other biplanes—has now been superseded, and the performance of modern carrier planes is not far behind those which are land-based. That is, all but two—Darby and Joan. In the 1930's, the Supermarine Walrus was the king-pin of the Fleet Air Arm, and still she chugs bravely on. Many Allied aircrews have cause to thank her for air-sea rescue; she played a valuable part in saving four out of every five American airmen who came down in the Channel. Though laughed at Darby and Joan, the two Walrus on this carrier, are viewed with affection. Two grand old cabs, we call them.

On April 19, aircraft from another ship were returning from a raid. As they passed



BOMBS FROM AVENGER TORPEDO-BOMBERS of the Naval Air Arm made these odd-looking patterns as they showered on a Japanese escort carrier trapped in the Shido Bay area of Northern Shididu Island in the Ryukyus (retaken in June 1945; see map, page 117). One is bursting alongside the carrier, which later received a direct hit. *Photo, Associated Press*

over the enemy coast, one shuddered and caught fire—hit underneath by Ack-Ack. Unfortunately, only the observer managed to bale out. Landing in the sea from only 500 feet, he found himself less than a mile from the coast. He had slight burns, and though his Mae West would not inflate he managed to keep afloat for nearly two hours.

In the meantime, Darby was sent to the rescue. We all turned out to watch P.-O. Bruce Ada, of the R.A.A.F., totter him down the deck and soar off the end like a prehistoric bird, racing towards the islands at 85 knots. The waiting Japs must have been amazed, probably thinking it to be a new British "suicide" weapon! Darby had to land in shallow water, quite half a mile from the survivor, and then weave slowly up to him, avoiding jagged coral beds. Sub.-Lt. (A) R. Marshall, R.N., the observer, had great difficulty hauling the survivor aboard, but the Japs encouraged him to hurry by firing their A.A. guns. Fortunately these wouldn't depress sufficiently, and shells whistled overhead. Chuggling speedily out to sea again Darby took off, and returned safely home.

Modern planes have so increased their landing speeds that it becomes very necessary to control them. Hooks, fitted to the tail of the aircraft, engage arrester-wires stretched across the deck and quickly haul the planes up. Not so Darby; as he came slowly over the stern of the ship many hands seemed to grab him and haul him safely on to the deck. This is the second time Darby had made a rescue in this way, earning himself a bouquet from the Admiral. "Understand," the Admiral had said in a signal, "Darby bombarded Japanese with his machine-guns." "No," replied Darby, "we threw coral at them instead!"

Mob Law and Gangsters in the Italy of Today

You can't walk far in Rome today without someone touching you on the elbow and asking if you have any foreign money to sell. Leave your car unguarded for a couple of minutes and you come back to find the wheels have been removed. Other startling revelations are made by Alexander Clifford, of the Daily Mail, writing from Rome on August 16, 1945.

IN the back streets you can buy anything you want—any article of Allied equipment—on the Black Market. Your newspaper is full of stories of crimes and disturbances. Your pocket may be picked at any minute. Italy is going through a crime wave which recalls the less settled periods of the Middle Ages.

Robbery, with or without violence, is the favourite crime. And it revolves mainly round food, oil, petrol, tires, and motor-car spare parts. In Rome and Naples notices in English are everywhere displayed warning us to look out for every sort of thief. An old motor tire will fetch £50 or more on the Black Market. So there are organized gangs who can whip off your spare wheel while you pause to light a cigarette.

A friend of mine had his entire luggage stolen from the back of his jeep while he was sitting in front and driving. He swears it must have been done while the vehicle was actually moving. There are gangs who rush an Army lorry with a planned technique like an American football scrum; gangs who siphon the petrol out of your tank; and gangs with incredibly ingenious systems of robbing ration dumps. It is all done with violence, if necessary.

I have been sniped at between Rome and Naples, in the early dusk—a shot across the bows of the truck—and Daily Mail correspondent Jenny Nicholson got into a regular machine-gun battle when crossing the Apennines from Bari. Every day you read of the discovery of huge dumps of food and oil held back secretly for the Black Market. Large-scale rings of forgers have been rounded up in Naples, and whole factories found for making false identity cards.

One by one the laboratories for concocting bogus gin and brandy to sell to the troops are being discovered. But plenty still remain undetected. There are other sorts of crime too. There are jealousy gangs who go round cutting off the hair of girls who walk out with Allied soldiers. There are far too many out-of-hand shootings of alleged Fascists by alleged Partisans. There is a great increase of beggars, with artificial injuries. Happily a law has now been passed to prevent the hiring out of small children to beggars.

But this gang crime is the serious thing. In some places there is real danger of a minority mob rule. Already some of these gangs have so frightened law-abiding citizens that no one dares give evidence against them. The causes of it all are obvious enough. The war has swept through the country. Industry has been ruined and the army largely dissolved—so, inevitably, there is a mass of unemployed.

Now the departure of the Allies is throwing further men out of work, and thousands of displaced persons are drifting back from abroad. Many Fascists in hiding are taking inevitably to crime. In Southern Italy there is a natural propensity to brigandage. Hundreds of courts, police stations, prisons, and records have been destroyed by the war.

Italy needs a refurbished and strengthened police force. More men with a sense of responsibility must be got in, and they must be paid enough to remove the temptation of bribes. Especially the police need more transport and better means of communication. But the basic need lies in the Italian people themselves. Colonel Poletti, the American A.M.G. chief, who probably knows more about it than anyone, said publicly the other day: "The most pressing political and moral need of Italy is respect for the law." He wasn't far wrong.

ROME'S "BLACK MARKET" is a straggling alley-way, the Via di Nona. Trade is done quite openly—with sky-rocket prices.
Photo, Keystone

OUR DIARY OF THE WAR

AUGUST 15, Wednesday

Japan.—Gen. MacArthur ordered Japs to cease hostilities and send representatives to Manila.

France.—Marshal Pétain sentenced to death by French High Court.

Home Front.—First of two-days Victory celebrations. State opening of new Parliament.

AUGUST 16, Thursday

Japan.—Suzuki Cabinet resigned.

Russian Front.—Marshal Vassilevsky sent ultimatum to Japanese in Manchuria to surrender arms by August 20.

Burma.—Surrender leaflets dropped to Japanese troops.

Home Front.—Announced that basic petrol ration increased from September 1.

AUGUST 17, Friday

Japan.—New Premier ordered army to observe Emperor's proclamation to lay down arms.

France.—Gen. de Gaulle commuted death sentence on Pétain to detention for life.

Sea.—German submarine U977 arrived at Mar del Plata, Argentine.

AUGUST 18, Saturday

China.—Troops of 1st Chinese Army entered Canton.

Solomon Islands.—Japanese troops began surrendering to Australians in Bougainville.

AUGUST 19, Sunday

Japan.—Japanese representatives arrived in Manila to arrange surrender.

Home Front.—The King and Queen attended Thanksgiving Service at St. Paul's.

AUGUST 20, Monday

Burma.—Lord Louis Mountbatten broadcast surrender instructions to Japanese Southern Army.

Pacific.—Surrender overtures made by Japs in Luzon and New Guinea.

Norway.—Trial of Vidkun Quisling opened in Oslo.

AUGUST 21, Tuesday

U.S.A.—Announced that all outstanding contracts for Lend-Lease were to be cancelled.

Germany.—Field-Marshal Montgomery issued warning of drastic measures against Displaced Persons committing crimes against civil population.

Home Front.—Announced that 24 clothing coupons to last from September 1 to April 30.

AUGUST 22, Wednesday

Russian Front.—Soviet airborne troops landed at Dairen and Port Arthur. Japanese Kwantung Army surrendered at Harbin.

China.—Sino-Japanese surrender negotiations in progress at Chihkiang, Hunan.

AUGUST 23, Thursday

Russian Front.—Order of the Day issued announcing Soviet occupation of whole of Manchuria, of south Sakhalin, and of Shumshu and Paramushiro in the Kuriles.

Home Front.—Charter of United Nations approved in Parliament.

AUGUST 24, Friday

Russian Front.—Soviet troops, still advancing in Korea, occupied Ifflu.

China.—Gen. Chiang Kai-shek signed United Nations Charter in Chungking.

New Guinea.—Japanese commander ordered "cease fire."

AUGUST 25, Saturday

Germany.—British forces in north-west Europe (B.L.A.) renamed British Army of the Rhine (B.A.O.R.).

AUGUST 26, Sunday

Burma.—Jap envoys arrived in Rangoon for surrender negotiations.

China.—Chiang Kai-shek's forces entered Shanghai and Nanking.

AUGUST 27, Monday

Japan.—Carrier-aircraft dropped food to Allied prisoners in Tokyo area.

Germany.—Maj.-Gen. Nares succeeded Maj.-Gen. Lyne as British representative on Kommandatura in Berlin.

AUGUST 28th, Tuesday

Japan.—First Allied troops landed at Atsugi airfield; Allied ships entered Tokyo Bay.

Far East.—British naval forces arrived off Penang and Sabang.

Burma.—Preliminary agreement with Jananese envoys signed at Rangoon.

★ *Flash-backs* ★

1939

August 23. *German-Russian Pact of Non-Aggression signed.*

1940

August 15. *Croydon airport bombed; 182 German planes destroyed over Britain.*

August 24. *First German bombs fell in Central London.*

1941

August 28. *Russians announced the evacuation of Dnepropetrovsk.*

1942

August 19. *Combined Operations raid, lasting 9 hours, on Dieppe.*

1943

August 15. *Allied forces landed on Kiska, in the Aleutians.*

August 17. *Enemy resistance ended in Sicily. Allies entered Messina. First R.A.F. raid on Peenemunde experimental station.*

August 23. *Kharkov recaptured by troops of the Red Army.*

1944

August 15. *British, U.S. and French troops landed in S. France.*

August 17. *Falaise captured by British and Canadians.*

August 24. *Gen. Leclerc's armoured division entered Paris.*

With Our Airmen Today

By CAPTAIN NORMAN MACMILLAN M.C., A.F.C.

WHEN the Japanese surrender offer was first received, Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten was in England after having attended the Potsdam Conference. He decided to return immediately to his headquarters in Kandy, Ceylon. His York aircraft had been serviced while in England by Avro, Rolls-Royce and Air Ministry servicing and maintenance staffs, and his crew were standing-by at Stoney Cross airfield for the admiral. Sqdn.-Ldr. J. F. Matthews, A.F.C., of Iver Heath, Bucks, was the first pilot ; Wing Commdr. A. E. Millson, D.S.O., D.F.C., of Tonbridge, Kent, second pilot ; F/Lt. R. J. Wainright, A.F.M., of Hertford, navigator ; F/Lt. H. Griffin, of Abbey Wood, London, wireless operator ; and F/Lt. E. Maxwell, of Carlisle, engineer.

The York landed at Cairo 11 hours 3 minutes after taking off from Stoney Cross, and in 66 minutes the York was refuelled and checked over. Ten hours 17 minutes carried the aircraft on to Karachi, where in a fraction over an hour it was again refuelled. Seven hours 18 minutes took the York from Karachi to a South-East Asia Command airfield in Ceylon. Total flying time was 28 hours 38 minutes, an average of 222 m.p.h. for the distance of 6,345 miles. Elapsed time, including stops, was 30 hours 46 minutes, giving a travelling average of 206 m.p.h

DENMARK REMEMBERED THE R.A.F. on July 22, 1945, when Mr. Wedell-Heinen, a local government official (right), unveiled in a forest north of Copenhagen a memorial recording the help given by our airmen to the Danish Freedom movement and in particular the names of Flt.-Lt. R. H. Thomas and Flying-Officer G. J. Allin who crashed there in a Mosquito in September 1944. Wing-Commander H. M. Kerr, A.F.C., of the R.A.F. mission to Denmark, represented Britain at this ceremony of commemoration.
Photo, British Official

AT 1.5 p.m. local time (7.35 a.m. B.S.T.) on August 15 the official order from the C.-in-C. land, naval, and air forces was issued from S.E.A.C. Hqrs. to suspend operations so far as is " consistent with the safety of the Allied forces." That was VJ Day in Britain —and the day that the new Parliament opened with the King's speech—for the Japanese had accepted the Allies' demand for surrender in a reply handed to the Swiss Foreign Office at 8.10 p.m. on August 14. But that did not immediately end the war situation in South-East Asia, and on August 20, Admiral Mountbatten broadcast surrender orders to Field-Marshal Count Terauchi, the commander of the Japanese southern army. Terauchi was instructed to send representatives with full powers in no more than two specially-painted aeroplanes, easily recognizable at 500 yards, to meet the Allied Chief of Staff at Rangoon on August 23 to arrange the surrender of all Japanese forces under his command.

MEANWHILE, on August 10, Spitfires had been bombing and shooting-up Japanese troop concentrations and positions on the east bank of the Sittang river, and two days later, while giving close support to the Allied ground forces east of the Sittang, Spitfires destroyed many jungle huts and buildings. On August 11, Thunderbolts and Spitfires were in action between Kyaukkyi and Boyagyi ; and at Paingkyon, north-east of Moulmein, Spitfires bombed and strafed other enemy troops. Mosquitoes were in action that day south of Moulmein and north of Peinnegyaung.

During the three days Sunderlands and Liberators attacked and sank or damaged shipping and barges from the Gulf of Siam to west of the Kra Isthmus. Flying over that dangerous water area has called for intensive air-sea rescue operations, and since the beginning of 1945 no fewer than 80 airmen have been rescued by Catalinas in the Bay of Bengal. I can share the feelings of the rescued men, for many years ago I was myself adrift on an upturned seaplane in that Bay, without either food or water, in the full blaze of the tropical sun in midsummer.

FLEW Without Dinghies, Relied Solely on Their Mae Wests

The record of the whole air-sea rescue service is a proud one. Having grown from the make-shift organization improvised during the Battle of Britain, when the first pilots of " the few " flew without dinghies and had to rely solely on their Mae Wests, it has become a world-wide service, equipped with many ingenious devices for saving life. Around the coasts of Britain 3,723 British and 1,998 American airmen have been rescued, while in the areas other than British waters 3,200 airmen, 4,665 soldiers sailors and civilians, have been saved. In July 1943, out of a total of 196 Fortress crews lost 139 were saved ; on one day that month 78 out of 80 were rescued. During the D-Day operations 136 R.A.F. craft, many naval craft and 60 U.S. Coastal Cutters scoured the invasion areas.

On August 13 Thunderbolts and Spitfires were again in action south-west of Kyaukkyi, in the Shegyin and Mokpalin-Billin areas. All over the widely scattered terrain of South-East Asia Command it must take time for the Japanese surrender to become effective, but there is almost certain to be a time limit during which active operations will be suspended ; following which, presumably, bands of enemy troops still resisting would be classified as guerillas.

BIGGEST Single-Day Raid Made by the Far East Air Forces

While the negotiations and discussions proceeded mysteriously within Japan, the air action against the Japanese in their home and occupied islands was maintained. On August 10, more than 500 aircraft from Okinawa dropped petrol-jelly bombs from a low altitude on Kumamoto, a military supply centre on Kyushu, in the biggest raid made in a single day by the Far East Air Forces. Oita, on north-east Kyushu, was also fire-bombed. On the same day the R.N.Z.A.F. co-operated with Australian troops and naval elements to silence the Japanese strong-points on Sohaua island guarding the Buka Passage between Bougainville and Buka Island. Australians were fighting with air support in the Wewak area of New Guinea.

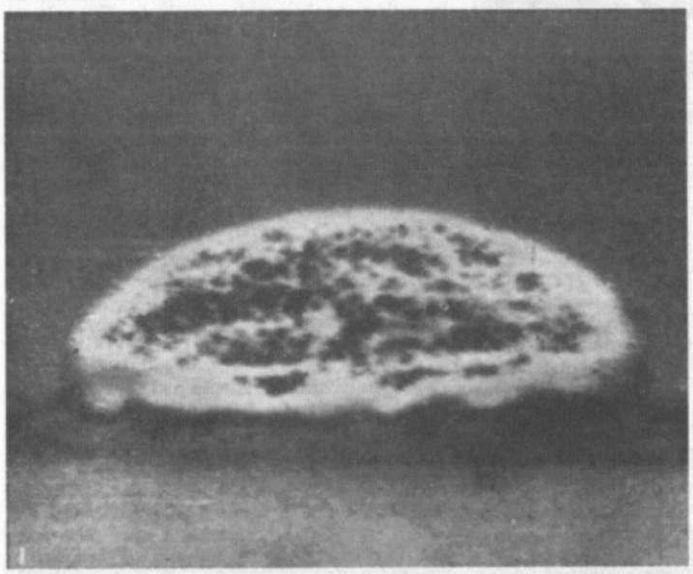
On August 12, the Japanese reported an attack by Super-Fortresses against Shikoku Island to the south and east of the Inland Sea, and the north-west coastal town of Matsuyama. Next day 1,500 U.S. and U.K. carrier-aircraft of the Third Pacific Fleet bombed six airfields in the Kanto Plain around Tokyo, shooting down 21 Japanese aircraft of the interceptor force that tried to intervene. Aircraft installations and a radar manufacturing plant were among the targets.

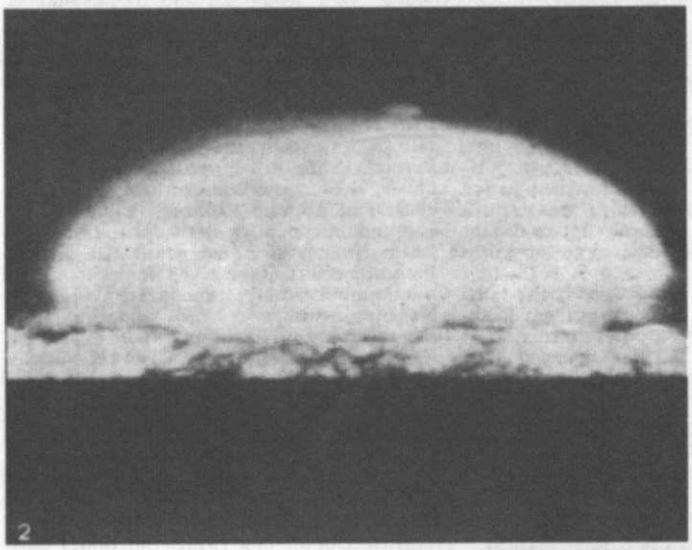
During daylight on August 14 and early morning of August 15 (Japanese time) 800 Super-Fortresses with nearly 200 fighters as escort, flying from Tinian in the Marianas, bombed targets on Honshu : these were the naval arsenal at Hikari ; the army arsenal at Osaka ; the Marifu railyards south-west of Hiroshima ; the Nippon Oil Company at Atika ; and industrial areas of Kumagayas and Isezaki. Next day the cease fire signal was given on British warships off Tokyo at 11.15 a.m., but isolated Japanese aircraft continued to attack the Allied ships, and five were shot down around them after 11.15, according to instructions, " in a friendly way." British-flown Avengers dropped what may be this war's last British bombs on a factory near Kamohaura at dawn on Aug. 15.

THERE are three postscripts to these events. It is now thought that the Japanese launched thousands of paper balloons carrying explosive against the United States. On a single day during the San Francisco Conference the Navy saw hundreds off the Aleutians heading for the California coast, but none were seen to reach land. By the end of July, 230 of these ineffectual weapons, or their remnants, had been recovered.

Squadron-Leader Ian W. Bazalgette, D.F.C., has been awarded a posthumous V.C. for his bravery in action on August 4, 1944, while acting as Master Bomber of a Pathfinder Squadron detailed to mark an important target at Trossy St. Maximin for the main bomber force. Chief of the Air Staff, Marshal of the R.A.F. Sir C. F. A. Portal, was elevated to the peerage as a Baron in Mr. Churchill's farewell honours list.

This Is the Atomic Bomb in Trial and Practice





SPECIAL CAMERA FOCUSSED SIX MILES AWAY secured this remarkable picture-sequence of stages in the explosion of the atomic bomb during the test at Alamogordo, New Mexico, on July 16, 1945 (see story in page 280). Flames and smoke rose from the target like a monstrous fungus (1), giving place to a gigantic " hat " of fire (2) which developed as at (3). At Nagasaki, three minutes after an atomic bomb (the second to be dropped on Japan) had exploded on August 9, smoke had risen to over 20,000 feet (4).

Photos, Keystone, Associated Press

Editor's Postscript

SPORADIC attempts round about VJ Day to introduce in the West End of London the New York method of jubilating with showers of torn paper were, I am glad to record, a miserable failure. I hope that following the snub implicit in the official request that was issued before the Royal procession to St. Paul's, we have now seen the last of it. It should be obvious enough that the custom, native to the city of skyscrapers, depends wholly on skyscrapers for its effectiveness. The wastepaper-baskets and telephone directories of thirty office floors piled one above the other can combine with those of thirty more on the other side of the street to let loose such a white cascade as the upper floors of even Piccadilly and Regent Street can never hope to emulate. There is infinitely more paper in the air at one time, and it takes far longer to flutter to the ground if only because of the draught that plays perpetually through the long canyons of Lower Broadway and Fifth Avenue. And when ticker-tape streams from thirty floors up, it can be an impressive sight by reason of its sheer length. In other words, against such a background, paper dropped out of windows may create a picture of the spirit of carnival beyond the most riotous fancy ; whereas in London it is—well, just paper dropped out of windows. There is another point. Before the war, by a mixture of blandishments, cajoleries, threats, and punishments, we as a nation had at long last just begun to be cured of the litter habit. We have slipped back since then, and any practice that encourages further retrogression is to be deplored.

THE popular press gave H. G. Wells full marks for producing over 31 years ago a story about the atomic bomb. One can only hope the event will prove that he showed an equal prescience in foreseeing it as the bomb that will end bombs. One interesting point arises. Wells's story, The World Set Free, described prophetically the outbreak of a great war only a few months before such a war began in fact. But in the book the date was given as 1956. In a preface to a later edition the author apologized for making so extraordinarily wide a shot, and explained that in the matter of dates he always erred on the cautious side, partly out of consideration for his more sceptical readers. He continued as follows :

> In the particular case of The World Set Free there was, I think, another motive in holding the Great War back, and that was to allow the chemist to get well forward with his discovery of the release of atomic energy. 1956—or for that matter, 2056—may be none too late for that crowning revolution in human potentialities.

Events have still beaten his calculations by at least eleven years !

THE other day I fell to thinking again, as I so often do, of that constant change in the significances and values of words which keeps our language a living force. Every war speeds up the process for a time, and this war has been no exception. I was not thinking this time of the multitude of new words that these six years have given us, so much as of the old words that can never again mean precisely what they meant before 1939, simple words like pathfinder, hedgehog, pinpoint, or mulberry. Take another simple example, the verb to march, and see how it has enlarged its meaning to become the romantic synonym for a nation-wide taking of military action. This usage, indeed, was already in vogue before the war. Hitler will march, we were warned. On the eve of the war Mr. Arthur Greenwood told the House of Commons, " If we are to march, I hope we shall march in complete unity, and march with France." A year later our enemies were renewing their inspiration with the aid of a song called We March Against England. They could scarcely have meant it literally, considering the breadth and depth of the English Channel, though with the Fuehrer were not all things possible ? Anyway, the odd fact is that there was never a war in which the combatants did less actual marching. Possibly the figurative sense of the word originated with Mussolini's notorious march on Rome in 1922, which was done in a railway train !

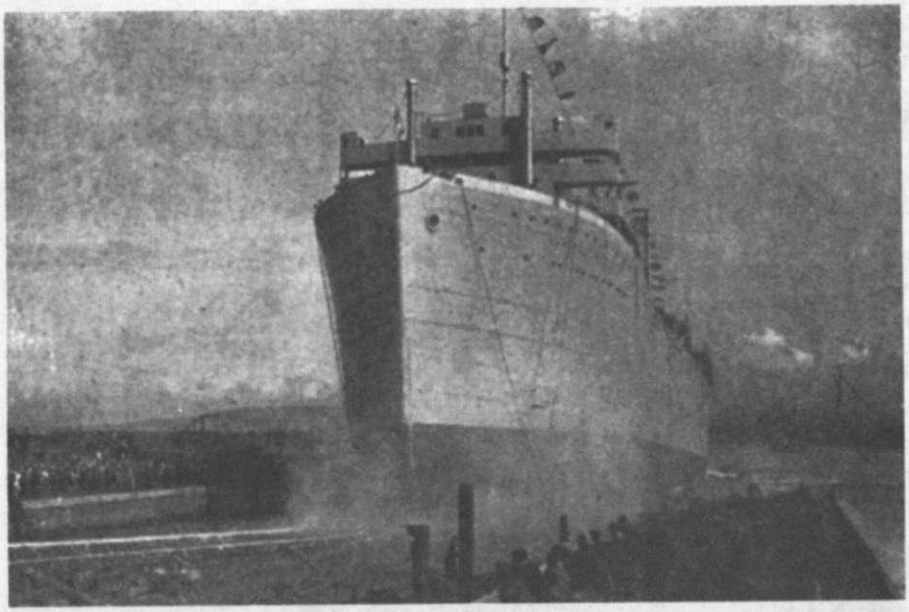
TUCKED away in The Times newspaper some time ago I came on startling news of a scheme which may conceivably mean the fortune or the failure of millions of people in this country. And yet not a word of it have I seen elsewhere in any of the dozen national and other newspapers which I make it my job to study daily. " Under the auspices of the Veterinary Educational Trust," it began, prosaically enough, " three veterinary experts, including a woman, have begun research upon the Horse, particularly the thoroughbred." With a fund of over £60,000 already raised on their behalf, these equine experts, it appears, are at present studying the ways of Welsh ponies ; soon they are to extend their researches to potential Derby and Grand National winners being trained at Newmarket and elsewhere. There—tantalizingly—my information ends, but not, alas, my passion for speculation. Does this simple announcement cloak an attempt by our big racehorse breeders and owners to put their highly chancey industry on such a scientific basis that in some not-so-distant future the Stud Book will assume the awful accuracy of Bradshaw or the A B C—that one may pick winners from it with the same sense of security as one chooses from Bradshaw a train to Edinburgh or Penzance ? It would be agonizing to think that the Tote may finally extinguish the bookie on the racecourses of tomorrow and that the palpitating, if harmless, " flutter " of today may become as joyless and uneventful a transaction as investing one's surplus cash in Consols at 2½ per cent. Win or lose, the fun of racing, as of all gambling, is its glorious uncertainty. No one, bookie or winner, has anything but contempt for the horse that romps home odds on. So that whatever startling discoveries are made about the Horse there will, I fancy, still be bookies and " mugs " to spare on the English racecourses of the future. Your biologist turned tipster is, of course, a possibility !

The Rt. Hon. JOSEPH BENEDICT CHIFLEY, whose election as Prime Minister of Australia in succession to the late Mr. John Curtin was announced on July 12, 1945. Aged 60, he is Leader of the Australian Parliamentary Labour Party. *Photo, New York Times*

ONE of the first instructions given to amateur criminologists, I seem to remember, is to search out the motive of the crime. That being so, I still find myself at a loss to discover the motive for one of the most caddish (if motiveless) tricks I have heard of for many a year. The story was told me by a colleague to whose niece it happened a short while ago. This young woman had been married only a few months when her husband, an officer in the Parachute Regiment, was posted missing at Arnhem. A month or so before the German surrender she was visited by a youngish man in officer's uniform who told her that her husband was still alive, though badly wounded, and in hospital in Germany where he (the visitor) had met him. The young man assured the girl that her husband would write to her as soon as he was well enough. Before leaving he gave her his name and address in case she should wish to get in touch with him. To her horror the letter she addressed him a few days later was returned through the post marked "not known." She thereupon informed the War Office, who communicated with her to the effect that no such "officer" had ever been gazetted in any such regiment ! The astonishing absence of motive lies in the fact that the scoundrel neither asked for nor received money or assistance of any kind, not even his out-of-pocket expenses which included (he said) a journey of over fifty miles. To heighten the mystery, the woman's husband has since been reported as " presumed killed."

LOOKING back on our six-year ordeal, I am inclined to agree with a friend who declares that the average Londoner's most outstanding memory will continue to be that of the variously-named Flying Bomb, Buzz-bomb or Doodle-bug (which no doubt had other less mentionable appellations as well) long after the blitzes have become a dimly-remembered nightmare. For those of an objective turn of mind, Mr. Frank Illingworth has produced through the Citizen Press a one-and-threepenny pamphlet, entitled Flying Bomb, in which he very vividly recounts the dread story of Southern England's eighty days of V-bombing. Those in search of background material for their private histories of the war will find much to draw on from Mr. Illingworth's tightly-packed store of facts, which range from the R.A.F. raid on the Nazis' experimental station at Peenemunde in August 1943 (when 5,000 German technicians and scientists perished, including General von Chamier-Glisezenski, chief technical adviser to the Luftwaffe), to the firing of the last V2. Statistics are a chilly kind of comfort at best (unless they come in the shape of news of income-tax relief), but it is solace of a sort to learn from Mr. Illingworth that while a million houses were damaged by V-bombs and no fewer than 33,537 people killed and wounded by them the rate of mortality was approximately one person killed per bomb. Of the 8,000 Flying bombs estimated to have been launched only 2,300 reached London—surely the best of all tributes to our R.A.F. fighters and Ack-Ack gunners, if, indeed, tribute were needed. By "launched" I take it that Mr. Illingworth means they were logged as approaching our coasts. The number actually launched may, therefore, have been considerably more than the 8,000 mentioned.

In Britain Now: Speeding Peacetime Recovery



WHALING-FACTORY SHIP, the Norhval, of 21,000 tons (left), was one of two launched at Haverton-on-Tees, Yorkshire, on July 31, 1945, for the Norwegian whaling industry in the coming winter. Negotiations between the British and Norwegian Governments have extended the whale-catching season from November 24 to March 24. Each whaling-factory is served by nine whalers. Whale-oil is used in making margarine and other foodstuffs.

REHABILITATION TREATMENT in the form of exercise for badly-wounded limbs, was provided for these two officers (above) by a treadle-lathe at Horton Emergency Hospital, Surrey. It is one of many centres throughout the country where over 30,000 patients, both Service and civilian receive special treatment.

WAR CRIMINALS' last hopes of evading justice were dashed on August 8, 1945, when an agreement was signed in London between representatives of Great Britain, the United States, the U.S.S.R. and France. At the signing ceremony (above) were (left to right) Justice Jackson (U.S.A.), Lord Jowitt (Britain), and Gen. I. T. Nikitchenko (U.S.S.R.). As a result of the agreement, a Four-Power tribunal has been established and a much greater precision than heretofore arrived at in defining international crimes and criminals. Such crimes are now categorized as follows: (1) crimes against peace; (2) war crimes; (3) crimes against humanity.

U.N.R.R.A. (United Nations' Relief and Rehabilitation Administration) held its first Council meeting outside the North American Continent on August 7, 1945, when the Council's third session opened at County Hall, Westminster (right). The delegates were welcomed by Mr. Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary, and Lord Latham, leader of the L.C.C. Mr. H. Lehman, the Director-General, stated that by June 30, 1945, U. N. R. R. A. had shipped 1,250,000 tons of supplies to needy countries, but at least £375,000,000 of additional resources would be needed.

Photos, Topical, Planet, New York Times Photos

A Radar Tower that Foiled the Raiders

KNOWN AS "CHAIN HOME LOW" STATIONS, towers such as this were erected at strategic points along our Southern and Eastern coasts during the early weeks of the War, it was revealed in August 1945. With rotating aerials mounted on steel-trellis structures 185 ft. in height, these radar devices were designed to pick up echoes of low-flying enemy aircraft. Early in 1940 they were sometimes hurriedly erected by University research-workers rushed to the site with labour provided by R.A.F. ground staff. See also pages 298-299. *Photo, British Official*

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